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From the Rev. W. B. SPRAGUE, D.D. Sept. 1839.

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ABSTRACT OF A JOURNAL

KEPT BY

E. BACON,

ASSISTANT AGENT OF THE UNITED STATES,

TO

AFRICA:

WITH

AN APPENDIX,

CONTAINING

EXTRACTS FROM THE NORTH AMERICAN REVIEW,  
ON THE SUBJECT OF AFRICA.

CONTAINING CUTS,

SHOWING

A CONTRAST BETWEEN TWO NATIVE TOWNS.

THIRD EDITION.

PHILADELPHIA:

Clark & Raser, Printers, 33 Carter's Alley.

1824.

## PREFACE.

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THE public have been already informed of the strenuous exertions of the United States government, in enacting numerous laws for the purpose of suppressing the slave trade; and of the successful vigilance of our naval officers, in detecting those desperadoes, the slave-traders, and bringing them to justice.

The public have also been informed of the benevolent operations of the American Colonization Society, in endeavouring to form a settlement on the western coast of Africa, composed of those free people of colour who choose to emigrate thither. It is moreover known that this settlement, if established, may prove an asylum for those Africans, who shall be recaptured by the United States' cruisers and sent to the coast.

There is reason to hope that these acts of mercy will contribute to meliorate the sufferings of a large portion of the human race, by the final abolition of the slave trade, that scourge of Africa and disgrace of the civilized world; by introducing the arts of civilization and the blessings of the Christian religion, among a race of beings who have hitherto lived in heathen darkness, destitute of the light of the gospel, or knowledge of a Saviour, by teaching the children of Ethiopia to stretch forth their hands unto God.

Having been employed as an assistant agent of the United States, along with J. B. Winn, Esq. principal agent in transporting to the coast of Africa a number of recaptured Africans and free people of colour; the author has had an opportunity of witnessing the degraded state of that section of the earth, and feels it a duty he owes to the souls of his fellow creatures, to lay before the Christian world a plain statement of facts in relation to the subject, which he doubts not will be interesting to all, and confidently trusts useful to many.

It may be proper to mention, that Mr. Winn, and the author, were accompanied in the expedition by the Rev. J. R. Andrus, principal, and Mr. C. Wiltberger, assistant agents of the Colonization Society, together with Mrs. Winn and Mrs. Bacon, in the brig *Nautilus*, Captain Blair.

**N. B.** The author's return was caused by ill health.

## ABSTRACT, &c.

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WE left Norfolk on the 21st of January, 1821, and on the 23d sailed from Hampton Roads. For about thirty days we encountered head winds and strong gales, and made slow progress. During this time I was very sea-sick, as were also Mrs. Bacon, and the Rev. Mr. Andrus. The other agents were less afflicted; some of the colonists suffered from the same malady. Our captain was remarkably kind and attentive to those who were sick, and particularly to Mrs. Bacon and myself, when we were unable to wait upon ourselves, for which kindness I shall always feel myself under very many obligations to him; and I think I speak the sentiments of my colleagues. Nothing uncommon occurred during our voyage, except that we experienced a very severe gale of wind, accompanied with a snow storm, which our captain told us was more violent than any he had known during the preceding twenty years. It was indeed a time to try our faith.

At the commencement of the voyage, we established morning and evening prayers in the cabin, as well as in the steerage, where the coloured people were; in these we enjoyed the consolations of the religion we profess.

We had all recovered from sea-sickness, and having arrived within the tropics, where the weather was fine and the wind favourable, our passage was more agreeable. Nothing uncommon occurred during the remainder of our voyage. But a continuation of the mercies of our heavenly Father were daily bestowed upon us. On the morning of the 8th of March, we had a distant view of the mountains of Sierra Leone, which was really animating to us after crossing the Atlantic. We felt ourselves approaching towards that much injured country, where we expected to labour, and to suffer many and great afflictions. We were cheered with the hope, that through the assistance of Divine grace, we should be, in a greater or less degree, useful among the degraded children of Africa. The wind was fair but rather light, as is not uncommon in the dry season. We soon hove in sight of Cape Sierra Leone, when we discovered, for the first time, several native canoes approaching toward us. These excited our curiosity. They were manned by the native Kroomen, in a state of nudity, or nearly so. When I speak of naked people, it may be always understood that they wear a cloth

about their loins, and that the men generally wear hats. These hats are manufactured out of a kind of grass. The chiefs and headmen often wear common English hats.

We soon discovered a fine English barge approaching us, rowed by natives. In this were the harbour master, George Macaulay and S. Easton, esquires, (of the house of the honourable K. Macaulay) who very politely gave us much interesting information, relative to our American blacks at Sherbro. As we approached near the harbour, they gave the American agents a friendly invitation to go on shore in the barge, and take lodgings at their house. As the principal agent concluded to remain on board, Mrs. Bacon and myself thought proper not to slight their politeness, our accommodations in the brig being somewhat circumscribed, and the transition from Norfolk, where the cold was excessive, to Sierra Leone, where the degrees of heat were at noon day from 85 to 87½ in the shade, making a visit to land desirable. Moreover the services of all the agents were not required to attend to the wants of the people. We accordingly went on shore, where we were politely and hospitably entertained for several days.

The agents of the United States, together with those of the Society, soon had an interview with the Rev. Daniel Coker, by whom we learnt the condition of the American settlers at Sherbro. He informed us that the mortality, although severely felt in the loss of our valuable agents, and Mr. Townsend, commandant of the United States schooner *Augusta*, together with six of his men, and a boy, was not so great as at first reported. The whole number of blacks who died, did not exceed twenty-three, out of the eighty-eight sent out in the ship *Elizabeth*. Several of those deaths were not caused by the prevailing fever. The actual number of blacks who died with fever, did not exceed eighteen or nineteen, all of whom died at Kizzell's Place. Although very many of the settlers were extremely ill when they left Kizzell's Place, and removed to Yonie, a more healthy part of Sherbro island, and the time of their removal was the month of August, in the midst of the rainy season, still no deaths by fever occurred at Yonie; but on the contrary, a general recovery took place, notwithstanding there was no medical aid. The sickness at Kizzell's Place was evidently in a great degree owing to local causes: the water alone is said to be sufficiently bad to create malignant disorders, though Kizzell was base enough to assert that it contained peculiar qualities highly conducive to health. That, and other false assertions, induced the former agents to receive his offer of friendship; pretending, as he did, to unbounded influence among the native chiefs; an ardent desire to further the benevolent objects of our government and the Society; to benefit America; to meliorate the condition of the African race, and propagate the glorious gospel of God in a heathen land.

After making other necessary inquiries of Mr. Coker, and of those gentlemen in Sierra Leone, with whom we were most conversant; also of some of the American blacks who went out with Paul Cuffee, and of Nathaniel Peck, who accompanied the first expedi-



tion; we were fully satisfied that Mr. Coker had managed the business of the expedition, after the decease of the former agents, in as judicious a manner as the circumstances of the case would admit.

We lost no time after our arrival, in communicating with the acting governor, his honour John Grant, upon the subject of our mission.

The American agents received a polite invitation to breakfast with him at the Government House on Saturday morning, the 10th of March. We there met his excellency, together with his honourable council, after partaking of a sumptuous breakfast of great variety, served up in elegant style.

The several benevolent objects of our government, and those of the Society were fully explained; and an open and candid exposition of our instructions made after this friendly interview; his excellency gave us a very polite invitation to dine at the Government House, on Tuesday the 13th of March; which we did accordingly, and partook of an elegant dinner, served up in much splendour. There were at table a number of the principal gentlemen, officers of the colonial government, Spanish commissioners, English missionaries, and several ladies.

The very friendly disposition which the colonial authorities manifested towards the objects of our mission, may be seen by a reference to the Sierra Leone Gazette.

A meeting of all the agents, together with Mr. Coker, took place, when it was unanimously agreed to relinquish the idea of making any further attempt to negotiate for lands in the *Sherbro country*; and that two of the agents should cause the United States schooner *Augusta*, which was lying at anchor in the harbour at Sierra Leone, to undergo some slight repairs for the purpose of exploring the coast in search of a suitable site for an American settlement; moreover, it was resolved that no time should be lost, as we were taught by our instructions to regard the acquisition of lands for a settlement, as a matter of primary importance.

Having a discretion on this subject, it was determined after advising with the English missionaries and agents at Sierra Leone, that the Rev. Mr. Andrus and myself should be deputed to the service of exploring the coast, and entering into negotiations with the native chiefs. At the same time it was arranged that Messrs. Winn and Wiltberger should disembark the people and goods from the *Nautilus*, after a suitable place for their temporary location should be determined upon, by and with the consent of the colonial authorities, who had politely proffered to provide such place, as soon as it could be selected. It was also agreed that Messrs. Winn and Wiltberger, should attend to the business at *Sherbro*—supply the wants of the people there, or remove them as should be found most expedient; so that as nearly as possible an equal partition of duties was made.

A suitable place was found about two weeks after Mr. Andrus

and myself had sailed on our hazardous excursion. We had been taught to expect the arrival of the Alligator, which was to accompany us. But it was not deemed advisable to wait, but to proceed immediately to execute that part of our instructions, which directed us to explore the coast; in this determination we were influenced by the following reasons:—

1. The assistance of all the agents was not necessary to administer to the wants of the people, circumstanced as they must be during their continuance at Sierra Leone; and some of us, unless employed in obtaining the lands, must have remained almost or quite unoccupied.

2. The period of the arrival of the Alligator on the coast was entirely uncertain. But little more than six weeks remained before the rains.

The business of exploring, therefore, must be commenced immediately, or not completed until the rainy season; and as the event showed, had we waited for the arrival of the Alligator, it could not have been begun before the commencement of the rains.

3. But our principal reason for embarking in the business immediately, was the certainty that the presence of an armed force would hinder rather than assist our negotiations with the natives. In this opinion we were confirmed by the unanimous judgment of all our English friends consulted on the subject. It will be seen, by a reference to dates, that we had concluded our contract for the lands, and returned to Sierra Leone, two weeks or more before the arrival of the Alligator.

The vessel in which we were to sail not being ready, and some information concerning our route being necessary, Mr. Andrus and myself visited the Rev. Mr. Johnson, a minister of the Church Missionary Society, at Freetown. We found him just recovering from ill health. He gave us a polite invitation to visit Regent's town, and appointed Saturday the 17th of March; on that day he furnished us with horses, and accompanied us with his lady and several other missionaries. Mrs. Bacon not being accustomed to ride on horseback, was carried in a palanquin, by some of the captured Africans. At about 7 o'clock, A. M. we left Freetown, and arrived at Gloucestertown about 9 or 10 o'clock, where we took some refreshment with the Rev. Mr. Doring. Under his care is a fine flourishing town of captured negroes; in which have been erected and are nearly finished, a large stone church, a commodious parsonage house, and a school house.

At about one o'clock, P. M. we arrived at Regent's town. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson had been at Freetown, where Mr. J. was sick several weeks; on our arrival great numbers of his people came to shake hands with him, and inquired affectionately after his health; even the expression of every countenance bore strong testimony of their ardent love for him, and the joy which filled their hearts on his recovery from sickness and safe return to his flock.



### VIEW OF REGENT'S TOWN.

The town itself is laid out with regularity—nineteen streets are formed, and are made plain and level, with good roads round the town—a large stone church rises in the midst of the habitations—a government house, a parsonage house, a hospital, school houses, store houses, a bridge of several arches, some native dwellings, and other buildings, all of stone, are either finished or on the point of being so. But the state of cultivation further manifests the industry of the people; all are farmers—gardens, fenced in, are attached to every dwelling—all the land in the immediate neighbourhood is under cultivation, and pieces of land even to the distance of three miles—there are many rice-fields; and among the other vegetables raised for food, are cassadas, plantains, coco, yams, coffee, and Indian corn: of fruits, they have bananas, oranges, limes, pine-apples, ground-nuts, guavas, and papaws: of animals, there are horses, cows, bullocks, sheep, goats, pigs, ducks, and fowls: a daily market is held, for the sale of articles; and, on Saturdays, this market is large and general. It has been already said, that all are farmers; but many of them, beside the cultivation of the ground, have learned and exercise various trades: 50 of them are masons and bricklayers—40, carpenters—30, sawyers—30, shingle-makers—20, tailors—4, blacksmiths—and 2, butchers. In these various ways, upwards of 600 of the negroes maintain themselves; and have been enabled, in this short space of time, by the fruits of their own productive industry, to relieve from all expense, on their personal account, that government to which they pay the most grateful allegiance.

The appearance and manners of the people have improved in an equal degree. They are all now decently clothed; almost all the females have learned to make their own clothing—about 400 couple are married—they were accustomed to spend their nights in dancing and drumming, after the heathenish fashion of their countries: not a drum is now left in the town—in six months only six deaths occurred; while, in three months, forty-two children were born—not an oath had been heard in the town, to Mr. Johnson's knowledge, for the last twelve months; nor had any drunkenness been witnessed—the attendance on public worship is regular and large, three times on the Sunday; on an average, not less than 1200 or 1300 negroes, while Mr. Johnson's first congregation amounted but to nine: at morning and evening daily prayers, not less than 500 are present: the schools, which opened with 90 boys and 50 girls, with 36 adults, now contain upwards of 500 scholars.

We had previously been informed by Mr. Johnson of a missionary tour, performed by *Mr. Cates*, an English missionary from Sierra Leone, in an overland journey to Grand Bassa, a distance of about 400 miles, accompanied by William Tamba and William Davis, native missionaries.

We had also been advised to select the Bassa country as the most eligible for the location of our settlement; the natives having manifested not only a willingness, but an ardent desire to receive instructions, and the king and head-men having entered into a covenant with Mr. Cates to receive and protect any missionaries which should be sent from Sierra Leone. We had moreover had an interview with Tamba and Davis on the subject, and came to a conclusion to explore the coast to the southward and eastward. Mr. Johnson politely proposed that Tamba and Davis should accompany us as interpreters. These men were able to speak all the different languages of the tribes as far as the Bassa country.

At six o'clock on the evening of our arrival, the bell at the church rang for divine service. The people were immediately seen walking from different parts of the town; the parsonage house being so situated that there is a fair view of almost the whole settlement, and it was delightful to observe the eagerness which people manifested to hear the word of God. A prayer meeting was held by the communicants after the usual evening prayers, it being expected that the LORD'S Supper would be celebrated the next day.

*Sunday Morning the 18th of March.*—At six o'clock, the bell rang for morning prayers, when the church was again filled. O! how pleasing to behold hundreds of those who were once wretched inmates of the holds of slave-ships, assembled in the house of GOD, on the morning of that holy day on which our blessed Saviour rose from the dead and ascended up to heaven! With many copies of the Holy Bible spread open before their black faces, their eyes were fixed intently on the words of the lesson which their godly pastor was reading. Almost all of Mr. Johnson's people who can read the blessed book, are supplied with Bibles from that *best of institutions the British and Foreign Bible Society*. Surely Christians ought to feel themselves encouraged in the support of missions, when such cheering fruits present themselves to view.

At 10 o'clock the bell again rang, though the church was nearly filled before that hour; the members of the well regulated schools which passed in review before the parsonage in regular succession, were all clad in clean decent apparel. When we arrived at the church there were no vacant seats to be seen. The greatest attention was paid during divine service. "Indeed I witnessed a Christian congregation in a heathen land—a people fearing God and working righteousness. The tear of godly sorrow rolled down many a coloured cheek, and showed the contrition of a heart that felt its own vileness." There were three couple married, and one child baptized. After the sermon, Mr. Johnson, with the assistance of brother Andrus, administered the communion of the body

and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ to nearly four hundred communicants.

At 3 o'clock, P. M. the church was again filled, and the most devout attention was paid to the reading and hearing of the *word*. It seemed that the whole congregation were eager to catch every word which fell from the pastor's lips.

Again, before the ringing of the bell, at six o'clock in the evening, the people were seen from the distant parts of the town, leaving their homes and retracing their steps back towards the house of God.

There we again united in praising that God who hath wrought such wonderful things even among the mountains of Sierra Leone, where the praises of Jehovah resound, not only from his holy sanctuary, but from the humble mud-walled cottage—from the tongues of those children of Africa, who have been taken by the avaricious slave-trader, dragged from parents, separated from brother and sister, and perhaps from wife, or husband, bound in chains, hurried on board the slave ship, crowded in a space not exceeding their length and breadth, nor even allowed to breathe the vital air. These persons after being recaptured, by order of the British government, have been put under the charge of a faithful minister of the gospel, whose labours have been accompanied by the Holy Spirit. These are the mighty works of God.

*Monday morning the 19th of March.*—At six o'clock prayers again in church. After breakfast it was concluded that it was expedient for Mrs. Bacon to remain in Mr. Johnson's family during my absence with Mr. Andrus exploring the coast. Although painful to the flesh, yet duty required it, and my wife readily submitted after uniting with good Mr. Johnson in commending us to God in solemn prayer.

We left Regent's town and arrived at Gloucester, where we took some refreshment with the Rev. Mr. Doring, and arrived at Freetown about 10. We found that the schooner *Augusta* was still undergoing repairs. We commenced making the necessary preparations for our departure. Contracted with William Martin, a yellow man, to navigate the vessel, and John Bean as mate—Moses Turner, three native sailors, and five Kroomen.

*Wednesday evening the 21st of March.*—Having been much engaged in making preparations, I had not time to write to my friends; and expecting not to return until after the sailing of the brig *Nautilus*, (although the disembarkation had not yet commenced,) a letter was wrote approving of the judicious management of the Rev. Daniel Coker, in conducting the affairs of the first expedition after the decease of the former agents, and recommending him to the friendly notice of the Board of Managers of the American Society for colonizing the Free People of Colour. This letter was signed by J. B. Winn, J. R. Andrus, C. Wiltberger, jr. and E. Bacon, agents.

*Thursday morning the 22d of March.*—The schooner is expect-

ed to be ready to-day; we are preparing for our departure, and hope to sail this evening.

At 5 o'clock, P. M. all hands are on board, some of the sailors intoxicated; the captain appears to make unnecessary delays. At length we set sail. After doubling the cape, we stood out to sea, far enough to clear all the head lands and islands of the coast; and then proceeding coastwise, we made Cape Mount, about 250 miles distant from Sierra Leone, on the 27th. This part of the coast we had previously learned to be in the occupancy of King Peter, one of the most powerful and warlike chiefs of West Africa, and more deeply engaged in the slave trade than any of his neighbours. The known hostility of his views to the objects of the American government and Society, dissuaded us from incurring any loss of time or expense in procuring an interview with him. We accordingly proceeded onward to the mouth of the Mesurado river, about 50 miles south of Cape Mount, where we came to anchor the next day, before two small islands, owned by John Mills, a yellow man, having an English education, and Baha, a black and native African. Both of these men are slave dealers, and it is supposed that their islands are mere slave markets. Every appearance went to justify this suspicion. The neighbourhood of Cape Mesurado having been indicated as a part of the coast favourable to our purpose, we were induced to make the most particular inquiry and observations in our power, relative to the advantages and disadvantages that would attend a settlement here.

The appearance of this part of the left bank of the Mesurado river, which terminates in the cape of the same name, is sufficiently elevated, and inviting. The natural growth is luxuriant and abundant; many of the trees attain to a large size, and present every indication of a strong and fertile soil.

The head man is a dependant of King Peter, and has the same name. We attempted to obtain a palaver with him, and for this purpose went on shore with a present. He was not ignorant of the object of our visit, and sent by a messenger declining an interview and refusing to receive our present, though we had reason to believe that if we had been mere missionaries, he would have received us readily.\* While we were at anchor, a schooner under French colours appeared, laying off and apparently waiting for an opportunity to come in and receive a cargo of slaves. We saw a great number of young Africans, who appeared as if intended for that vessel.

On the evening of the 29th, we got under way, and following the direction of the coast, which here stretches south-easterly, we had the prospect of a delightful country the whole distance to St. John's river. The coast presents a sandy beach; in the whole of this extent, the country is gently elevated from the coast, and has a surface agreeably diversified with moderate inequalities. Most of the

\* This cape has since been negotiated for, together with a large tract of fertile country, and the American colony are settled on it.

land visible from the sea either has been, or now is, in a state of cultivation. The soil is prolific in the most substantial articles of food produced in tropical countries. The neglected parts of the land are covered with a thick growth of brush wood. The mountains in the interior are here about twenty or thirty miles from the sea, stretching in the direction of the coast, and come more distinctly into view, than at the northward of the Cape. Their elevation must be considerable. On the evening of the 31st we were becalmed, and obliged to anchor opposite the mouth of the St. John's river, at the distance of between two and three leagues. This river is nearly a league over at the mouth. About six leagues from the sea, it is one mile wide, and has in no part of the main channel, less than nine feet water. Salt water extends but six or eight miles from the sea; there is a rapid at six leagues distance from the mouth of the river, which is however passable with canoes. Above, the batteau navigation extends to a great distance in the interior. Five miles to the eastward of the mouth of St. John's, and discharging its waters into the same bay, is the Grand Bassa river, small in comparison with the St. John's, and very shoal at the bar—but of considerable length and navigable for light batteaux a number of leagues.

On the 1st of April, we brought the schooner to anchor off the mouth of the latter river, at the distance of three-fourths of a mile. We were soon surrounded with canoes, which brought on board a large number of natives. By one of them we despatched a small present to the king. This prince's name is Jack Ben, lately advanced to the supreme power, from the rank of principal head-man, in consequence of the death of King John, which occurred about four months before our visit.

*Monday morning, April 2d, Grand Bassa.*—We were visited by ten or fifteen native canoes, bringing from two to five men each, who came to trade; their articles were fowls, fish, oysters, eggs, palm oil and palm wine, cassada, yams, plantains, bananas, limes and pine apples, for which they wanted in return tobacco, pipes, beads, &c.

Fowls are sold for one leaf of tobacco or one pipe each; oysters are very large and fine; half a pound of tobacco will buy one hundred; they are larger than the Bluepoint oysters.

Mr. Andrus and myself went on shore in our boat, below the mouth of Grand Bassa, to take a view of the point of land which projects out into the sea. A fort, erected on this point, would completely command the whole harbour. After visiting the point, it was necessary to cross the Grand Bassa a short distance above its mouth, as the surf was turbulent below the bar. Our conductor was a Krooman, by the name of Bottle Beer. When we came to the left bank of the river, we saw no canoe or other means of crossing over as we thought; but Bottle Beer proposed to carry us over, and placed himself in a suitable position, and told one of us to sit upon his shoulders, when Brother Andrus seated himself with one leg over each shoulder; then Bottle Beer walked deliberately

through the river, carrying his burden safe to the other bank, and returned back and proposed to take me, I told him I was so fat and heavy that he would let me fall into the water; he put his hands upon his arms and legs, and said, "Me strong, me carry you, Daddy." At length I seated myself likewise upon Bottle Beer, and though he was not as heavy a person as myself, he carried me safe over without wetting me; it was necessary, however, that I should hold my feet up, as the water was about half a fathom deep. After this we walked about 300 yards, to Bottle Beer's town, a little cluster of cottages inhabited by Kroomen, of which B. B. is head-man; several of these people can talk broken English; the King placed B. B. at this town as a factor or a harbour master, as it is a place for vessels to water. The population is perhaps from 60 to 100; we were conducted to the palaver-house, where the people soon gathered together, and shook hands with us. After remaining a short time, we were conducted to another town (so called) where the people were boiling sea-water for salt, as they do at all the towns near the beach; this is called Salt-town; through this we passed to Jumbotown, which is about one mile from Bottle Beer's town, and much larger.

In Jumbotown there are from 30 to 40 houses, and several hundred people. There is also a large palaver-house, to which we were conducted. There we were accosted by Jumbo, the head-man, and the natives, and shook hands with them. The land is prolific beyond description. Indian corn grows luxuriantly and is in the ear. Indeed the country is beautifully variegated, and the water is good and plenty.

About 1 o'clock, P. M. we returned back to our boat, which was at B. B.'s town. After the boat was in readiness, one of the Kroomen took me in his arms and carried me above the surf to the boat, and likewise Mr. Andrus, so that we were not wet; and all this kindness without being solicited. Indeed they are very kind and hospitable; they gave us water to drink, and palm wine, and made us welcome to such as they had. As is customary, they begged for tobacco, of which we gave a small quantity to the head-men, who always distribute among the people.

After returning on board the schooner, we dined on fish and oysters sumptuously. We then went in our boat over the bar, into the mouth of the St. John's river, about four miles distance from the schooner, when we sounded on the bar, and found not less than nine feet water at ebb-tide. The river is about three miles wide at the bar: there is plenty of water and good anchorage: vessels of two or three hundred tons burden, may lie perfectly safe. It being nearly dark, and the tide beginning to make, which was against our returning in the boat, over the bar, it was thought most prudent for Mr. Andrus and myself to go on shore and return by land to Jumbotown, which we did accordingly. There was no path on the shore but the sand beach, which was fatiguing, as the sand was so loose that a great part of the way our shoes would sink two or three inches every step. Moreover, being exposed to the night



air, is thought in Africa to be dangerous to foreigners; however, we arrived at Jumbotown about 8 o'clock, and waited for our boat, which soon came. The natives again carried us through the surf, and we returned on board much fatigued, having been in a profuse perspiration and exposed to night air, until 9 o'clock. I was very weary. After having taken some refreshments, we had prayers and retired to rest. Heard nothing from the king, the Krooman not having returned.

*Tuesday, April 3d.*—This morning brother Andrus was not in very good health, and did not go on shore, but took medicine. We were again visited by natives, with a great variety of fruit, vegetables, fowls, fish, &c. &c.

We this day sent another message to the king. At 10 o'clock I went on shore, in company with Tamba and Davis, and walked about one mile into the country, where I found the land remarkably good. We passed through four or five towns, as they called them; the houses as in other towns appear at a distant view more like the same number of stacks of straw or hay, as they are covered with a kind of grass. Davis and Tamba improve every opportunity to talk with their country people upon the subject of our mission. Davis saw some of the head-men to-day, who appear to be suspicious that we had some unfriendly object in view; but as he can speak their language fluently, he is endeavouring to remove their doubts.

Returned on board with not only my locks but my flannels drenched with perspiration; even while I am writing, if my handkerchief were not in my hand to wipe it from my face, I should be compelled to discontinue. No prospect as yet of seeing the king.

This evening brother Andrus's health is better. We commended ourselves and the cause in which we are engaged to God, who alone can accomplish all things, according to his purpose, and retired to rest.

*Wednesday Morning, April 4th.*—At six o'clock, according to our arrangements made yesterday, we started in our boat, with four boatmen and our interpreters, making eight of us; and five natives, two of which were head-men, in two of their canoes. We ascended the river St. John to the first island. The banks of the river are rather low, but suitable for cultivation. This island was formerly occupied by a slave factor; but since the English and American cruisers have annoyed them, the traders have abandoned this and all the other islands. In this river their gardens are to be seen; in them is a variety of fruit. We breakfasted here upon some smoked beef and bread, which we brought from the vessel. Thence we proceeded on to another island, to which Davis said he was brought, and on which he was sold to an American slave factor.

It was with great difficulty that we prevailed on the natives and our boat's crew to proceed any further, because they said, "White man never live above that place." It appeared that they doubted

the efficacy of their gregres, which they never fail to wear when exposed to danger. We passed two other islands, formerly occupied by the same kind of desperadoes. We still proceeded onward until we came to rapids, which are from 15 to 20 miles from its mouth. The land as we ascend the river becomes more elevated, with a fine growth of timber, admirably situated for settlements. We saw several small towns and farms, where rice and vegetables are cultivated. Davis read the 20th chapter of Exodus, and spoke to the people upon the state of their souls. In one of those towns, people were very attentive; their reply to him after he had ceased speaking was, "*Very well, we hear you, all very good what you say, we think 'bout it, we no sabby white man fash, we sabby gregre.*"

We saw very fine goats, and sheep, and poultry. All the people wear gregres or charms; some of these are brass rings, which they wear around their ankles and wrists—one is a feather tied with a string around their neck—and what they consider more valuable, is the horn of a goat or a sheep, which the Dibleman (as they say) prepares by filling it with a kind of glutinous substance, intermixed with pulverized charcoal, or black sand; some wear a little ball of clay tied up in a piece of white muslin.

At 3 o'clock we put our company in motion on our return. At 7 o'clock, the boat arrived at the mouth of the river, and before crossing the bar, brother A., myself, Tamba and Davis, went on shore, where we had a most fatiguing walk down the beach to Jumbotown; our boat not being able to go over the bar before daylight, as the tide did not favour; therefore we had no boat in which we dare venture, as the native canoes were small and unsafe for us. Having been twelve hours exposed to the scorching rays of the sun, and having walked four miles in the damp of the evening, with our clothes drenched in perspiration, and being obliged to lay down supperless upon a floor composod of bamboo sticks, without any covering but our wet garments—having no door to our cottage, and several hundred natives within twenty yards, drumming and dancing, until one or two o'clock in the morning.—Indeed these were times that the secret ejaculations of the heart ascended up to the throne of the Heavenly Grace, for grace to help in that hour of need. Nor was the ear of Jehovah heavy, that it could not hear; nor his almighty arm shortened, that it could not save; for we found ready help through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthening us.

*Thursday morning, April 5th.*—We arose and felt somewhat the worse for our hard lodging, after our extreme exposure in that climate, in which, it is said, foreigners are subject to fevers and agues; our boat came to the beach for us, and we went on board the schooner. Having heard nothing from the king, we concluded to send Davis with one of the head-men, to seek his majesty. Davis was despatched with a present. We this day learned from a head-man, that we could have land, but that we must go to the king's town to-morrow.

We admired the friendly disposition of the inhabitants, but discovered their fears, that we were connected with some ship of war.

*Friday morning, April 6th.*—We went on shore, and went to the king's town, but could not see him; it was said that he was not at home. The distance is from two and a half to three miles; the land is most excellent, elevated and dry; we saw very fine rice fields: this town was recently built, the houses are much better than any I have hitherto seen in the Bassa country.

We returned back to the schooner, without seeing Davis, and sent Tamba to call him, but he remained. We are full of doubts and fears about obtaining a palaver with the king.

*Saturday, April 7th.*—This day Tamba and Davis returned; it appears they have been labouring to convince the head-men, that we have not come with any hostile intention.

*Sunday, April 8th.*—Brother A——, and Davis, went to old King John's town, for the purpose of holding a meeting. Returned in the evening, and said that they had seen King Ben, and that he would meet us in Jumbotown, in palaver, the next morning.

They saw the body of King John, who had been dead four moons, yet not buried; he was laid in state in a palaver-house, dressed in a fine robe, with a pair of new English boots on the feet: a brisk fire is kept burning in the room. His grave is dug, which is eight feet square, for the purpose of admitting the body and the form upon which it lies, together with bullocks, goats, sheep, tobacco and pipes, as sacrifices! O Lord, when shall these superstitions cease.

*Monday, April 9th.*—This morning the sea very rough. At 11 o'clock, we went on shore, with a present to the king, (as it is impossible to get a palaver with the authorities of the country, without a respectable present "to pay service" to the king, his princes and head-men,) we met his majesty, King Jack Ben of Grand Bassa, together with several of his head-men in Jumbotown, in the palaver-house, with a large concourse of people. After shaking hands with them, we laid down our presents, which consisted of one gun, some powder, tobacco, pipes, beads, &c. His majesty said in broken English, "me tanke you," and caused the articles to be removed, and placed under the care of a sentinel, so that his people might not get them before he had divided them equally, as is their custom. This division takes place, that all may "taste of the good things," and a contract is made: all who have partaken of the present, are pledged to fulfil on their part.

The king asked us what we wanted, although he could not have been ignorant of our wishes. We stated our object to be, "*to get land for the black people in America, to come and sit down upon [to occupy]. We told him that the people were very many, and required much territory; that a few white men only would come along, to assist and take care of them; that we should make a town where ships would come and trade with cloth, and guns, and beads, and knives, and tobacco, and pipes; and take in return, their ivory, and palm oil, and rice, and every other thing growing in the fields;*

*that they would not then need to sell any more people, but might learn to cultivate the ground, and make other things to sell for whatever they wanted."*

We at last succeeded in making a favourable impression on their minds; and convincing them that we had no unfriendly motive in visiting Bassa. The palaver was adjourned until the next day. It indeed requires much patience to deal with these children of the forest. We returned on board weary and faint: after partaking of some refreshment, and having implored the divine blessing of Him who has promised to give to his Son the heathen for his inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for his possession, retired to rest.

*Tuesday, April 10th.*—This day is expected to be a day of importance, as the palaver will be much larger, and a certain condition will be discussed, which they have urged from the beginning; therefore, we look earnestly for Divine assistance. A small present will be necessary as there will be more head-men than at any former palaver. At 10 o'clock we were convened. The present was placed before the king, and the usual ceremonies were performed. The king rose up and spoke to the case in the Bassa language, with great energy; his naked arm presented to view from within his robes, which were made of the country manufactured cloth, something in the form of clerical robes. After him, a Krooman by the name of Brown, rose and spoke with much spirit; his speech was interpreted by Tamba; the substance of it was, that we were emissaries from some slave-ship in the neighbourhood, and that we were not friends to them; on which the king and his council withdrew to the shade of a large silk cotton tree, in conclave, for the space of twenty or thirty minutes. They then returned and proceeded in discussing the condition, strenuously urged from the beginning by the king, as the basis on which alone he could accede to our wishes in relation to the lands. We had stated, that we came not with any hostile intentions, and that the character of the settlement was to be unwarlike and agricultural. They demanded of us a positive stipulation, to make *book*, as they term it, that the settlers and agents should act in consistency with this character, and in no way assist the armed ships sent to the coast to suppress the slave trade, by communicating to them any information that might prove injurious to the Bassa people. We represented to them the advantages which would attend their relinquishing the trade altogether; stating that in a very short time it must cease, as so many ships of war would be sent to the coast, as to catch every slave vessel, and put an end to the exportation of the people; still they insisted on the condition; and at the breaking up of the palaver, told us we should have the lands, provided we agreed to insert the condition in the contract [book]. They directed us to explore the country, and (as the king said, "lookem straight," laying down his palaver brush in a straight position,) fix upon the tract best adapted to our purpose, at the same time indicating the quarter where those lands lay, which

they could best afford to spare. We returned on board the schooner somewhat encouraged, but still we felt dissatisfied with the condition upon which they insisted; however, considering that it could have no practical operation, inasmuch as if, while in our infant state, we were to show a disposition to use any other means than persuasion in urging them to abandon the traffic in slaves, we should incur their displeasure, and cause the destruction of the whole of our expectations of future success, we were tolerably content.

*Wednesday, April 11th.*—This day went on shore, when it began to rain. There has been a little rain every day for six or seven days past. It appears that the rains are setting in. The king sent a servant to us, with a message, informing us that he would be ready to receive us after the rains had ceased. We arrived at the king's town. We had a short palaver, after ascertaining that we could not obtain land upon any better terms. It is, however, probable, that at no distant period the natives may be induced to abandon the slave trade altogether, without any coercive measures being used, as they will see other sources of trade present themselves to view.

The king directed some of his head-men to accompany us, to look at the country. We walked in various directions, and returned to the schooner, having previously explored the St. John's river as far as the rapids, and viewed the country in various directions. We fully determined upon the territory which would be suitable for our purpose. We are more and more pleased with the appearance of the country and its inhabitants. The king took one of his boys by the hand, who was about 13 or 14 years of age, and gave him to us to learn *Book*. We took him on board, and put a pair of domestic pantaloons upon him, which pleased him very much.

*Thursday, April 12th.*—This morning the king sent two of his head-men on board to go with us and fix upon a place to build our town. We sent back a message that we had fixed upon the place, and that we were ready to meet him in palaver, at any time he should appoint, at Jumbotown. He did not send us his answer until evening, when two of his head-men arrived with a present from his sable majesty, which consisted of a fine fat goat. His answer was that he would meet us at 8 o'clock the next morning at Jumbotown, in grand palaver. We are very anxious to know the final result.

*Friday, April 13th.*—We met in palaver; there were more head-men and princes, as well as people, than at any time previous. Our present, of course, was much more valuable than before. We thanked the king for his present, and he returned the same civility for our presents. These people being ignorant of extent of territory, or of distances by measurement, we directed our interpreters to tell them that we wanted a large tract of land, and they described it thus:—Beginning at a certain tree on the beach near Jumbotown,

running due east by compass to the top of Saddle Mountain, or two or three days' walk, either of which would be a distance of from 40 to 60 miles; from thence northwardly to St. John's river, a distance of perhaps from 50 to 70 miles; from thence down the St. John's river to its mouth; from thence along the sand beach to the aforesaid tree near Jumbotown, inclusive: supposed to be 30 or 40 miles square of territory. To our having this tract, they readily agreed, and directed their names to be set to the instrument, the conditions before mentioned being included. They all took hold of the pen and made their marks; they then cried aloud, "Palaver set! Palaver set!"

The agent of the Colonization Society, engaged in behalf of said Society, to give certain stipulated articles annually, which will not cost more than 300 dollars. Pledges of mutual friendship were interchanged, whereby each party agreed to cultivate peace and harmony, and not to make war or trouble each other.

Thus we at last succeeded in convincing them that we were their friends. This, we were assured, we could not have done, had it not been for the presence of *Davis*, and the entire absence of any display of military or naval force. We regard it as a most favourable providence that the Alligator did not bring or accompany us to the Bassa, and that no naval officer was present at the negotiations.

The king was much pleased at seeing his son with trowsers on; the people said, "He gentleman all one white man:" the king proposed to give us an elder son in lieu of the other, as he said if the younger went away, his "Mama make palaver on me." We accepted his proposition, took the elder on board, put a suit of clothes on him, and gave him the name of Bushrod Washington. His father was very much delighted to see him clothed. The king, princes, head-men, and people, went with us to the tree on the beach near Jumbotown, one of the aforesaid boundaries, and a boy climbed up it, and cut off some of its branches, leaving one branch, which ascended considerably higher than the rest: to this he tied about six yards of an American pendant, which the people consider a white man's grege or fetish, and according to their prejudice, regard as sacred. Near this spot it was thought proper to make our settlement. The king's son will go with us to Sierra Leone, where he will be put to school and taught to speak English. The king and people are all anxious that we should return immediately, even before the rains fully set in; but we do not give them any encouragement of our speedy return.

These people are very kind, but are in a dreadful state of heathenish darkness; they worship the "Dibly man" and dedicate daily a part of their food to his satanic majesty. They profess to believe that there is a good and merciful Deity, who can and will do them good, and not evil: but that the devil is all powerful, and that it is necessary to appease his wrath. Every town has its peculiar devil.



The man who acts the part of devil is dressed up in the manner shown in the engraving. A garment of dried grass or rushes covers him, and reaches to the ground; his arms and feet are concealed; a white country-cloth covers his shoulders; round his head, and tied under his chin, are two or three cotton handkerchiefs; the face is frightful; the mouth and nose are black; two large teeth project far beyond the lips; a row of coarse shells is bound round above the eyes; on the head is a red cap, which reaches four or five feet in height, and is surmounted with a plume of feathers.

Sometimes this figure would move about in a stately style; and at others it would turn into all sorts of postures, and strike the plume of feathers on the ground, uttering a noise like that occasioned by blowing through a pipe, the mouth of which is immersed in water.

Every inducement was offered to the king to obtain possession of the habiliments of this terrific figure, that we might carry them out of the country; but could not prevail. The king said that the devil belonged to the people, and that they would kill him if he let it go. We trust that the light of the gospel will, ere long, expose to shame these delusions of cunning and superstition.

The people, like all other natives, are in a state of nudity, except that they wear about one and a half yards of narrow cloth about their loins; the men often wear hats, while the children are not burdened with any kind of clothes, but frequently, like the adults, wear many beads. Leopard's teeth are thought to be very valuable ornaments.

The king, when in general palaver, was clad in his robes, which covered his whole body; he had on, also, an elegant cap; at other times he wore a drab-coloured broad-cloth great coat, with a number of capes. His head-men were partially clad, some with blue cloth roundabouts, with military or naval buttons. They wore no shirts. Many of them had belts of beads, which contained one or more pounds each.

There are many Kroomen in the towns along the coast. They are employed as agents or factors for the authorities of the country, who monopolize all the trade. These agents have each a number of certificates from masters of vessels who have employed them. They wished us to give them books, likewise, but we had no occasion to employ them as factors. Bottle Beer required us to pay for the water with which our vessel had been furnished. With this demand, we did not comply, as we had not come "for trade." We informed the king of the demand, and he revoked it. The people all live in villages or clusters of cottages, in each of which is a head-man, who has a plurality of wives. If a native have but one wife, he is indeed very poor. The head-man is a slaveholder, he owns all the people in his town. The inhabitants of each town cultivate in common. The men seldom do any labour, except fish a little, and hunt. The females and small boys cultivate the land. The men trade and direct those who are under them. I saw a fine looking female with iron fetters on her feet, which fetters, no doubt, were brought from a slave vessel, as we observed one under French colours, lying in the harbour at the same time. I made inquiry concerning the cause of her confinement, and was told that she was taken in adultery. It is said by the natives that "Wife Palaver, very bad palaver." It is punished with death, red water, or slavery, and most usually the latter. These people are indeed in gross darkness, depending upon their gregres and devil worship. A town is not complete which has not a Palaver House, and Devil House. The latter has a small post standing near it, six or eight feet high, with a strip of white muslin about three-fourths of a yard in length, and two or three inches wide, tied round the top. There they daily offer sacrifice.

The Bassa country is situated between five and six degrees north latitude, and between ten and eleven west longitude, in the centre of the Grain Coast, which is about an equal distance from Sierra Leone and Cape Coast, where the English have commenced a settlement. Swine, herds of neat cattle, sheep and goats are bred here.

At evening we took an affectionate leave of the king and some of the head-men; the old king appeared to be much affected, and said, "You have my son, you take him Sierra Leone learn book, when rain done you come Grand Bassa, then king Jack Ben give you plenty boys learn book." The people are all apparently very anxious to have us return; they seem to have great confidence in us.

*Grand Bassa, Saturday morning, April 14th.*—Many natives were on board with fruit, rice, fowls, eggs, and vegetables to sell, which we bought, chiefly with tobacco.

At twelve o'clock we set sail on our return to Sierra Leone. We made slow headway; the wind is light. At six o'clock we are not more than three or four leagues from Bassa.

We are turning our attention to the state of our settlers at Sher-



bro, and those at Sierra Leone. We think of visiting Sherbro as we return. We are very anxious to hear from our friends.

We feel grateful to God for his mercy, in preserving us, and enabling us to accomplish our wishes in some degree. Still, however, we have continual need of Divine assistance. Our vessel leaks and requires much attention; but our trust is in God alone, who has hitherto mercifully preserved us, so that "the sun hath not smitten us by day, neither the moon by night." The pestilence which walketh in darkness hath not come near us; therefore, we are under renewed obligations to praise the Lord for his goodness, and for the wonderful works in the great deep.

*Sunday morning, April 15th.*—At sea with a fair wind; we have just discovered Cape Mesurado. Had worship this morning as usual, and found it good for us to call upon the name of the Lord, to read his most holy word, to meditate upon his blessed promises, to praise him for past mercies and implore the 'continuance of his most gracious aid. Our people having yesterday evening slaughtered the goat which the king presented us, it is necessary to cook some of the flesh, though it is the Sabbath day. It is very fine and fat, and quite a luxury, notwithstanding we have had plenty of fowls, fish, and oysters, fruits and vegetables.

Prince Bushrod is a little sea-sick; he appears to be much pleased with his dress, and has been persuaded to take off his gregres, Davis having told him if he wore clothes, he must not wear gregres. We calculate to let him go to Regent's town, and stay with Davis and attend school, under the superintendance of the Rev. Mr. Johnson, where he will have the benefit of associating with some of his own countrymen, who are pious and useful people.

*Monday, April 16th.*—Last night there was a tremendous tornado, with much rain; at the appearance of a tornado it is necessary to take in all sail immediately, as the wind generally blows powerfully.

Our Kroomen are easily intimidated in bad weather; they have on their gregres, those which they think contain the most virtue and are best calculated to preserve them from the greatest danger. I endeavoured to persuade them that their gregres were useless, and advised them to throw them into the sea, but my entreaties were in vain; one had his gregre tied with a twine around his head above his ears; I took hold of the string and broke it. On examining it, I found it was composed of a ball of clay, tied up in a piece of white muslin, with a small feather in the end; he was angry and sorry for his loss. One gave me his gregre, that I might view its contents: they consisted of nothing more than a kind of black sand tied up in a piece of rag. I threw the gregre into the sea, which grieved him very much.

The Kroomen were all alarmed at their loss; and expressed fears that "tornado catch us," or that some other accident would happen to us. They said that they "make bad palaver on me," when we arrived at Sierra Leone, and that I should have to pay twenty barrs (equal to twenty dollars). They are poor creatures indeed, in every

sense of the word. They appear to be very affectionate to each other. When we are visited on board by other Kroomen, they beg food for them, or divide their own portion among the visitors. They prefer rice, which they boil and use with palm oil, to animal food. They sit down around a large dish of rice, and make use of their hands instead of spoons.

*Tuesday morning, April 17th.*—We were off the Galinas with a light wind, proceeding on towards the Shebar, which is the entrance into Sherbro Sound, near the eastern part of Sherbro island. We wished to cross over the Shebar, which is difficult without a skilful pilot. A native who resides at Bohol within the bar, on discovering a vessel, generally goes out in his canoe to meet her. We hoped to be discovered by him, so that we might pass over in safety. Our object was to visit our people at Yonie, a native town on the island, opposite Bohol, which is on the main. At evening we heard the surf roar as its waves rolled over the Shebar; it is heard several leagues; the wind was ahead, and we made slow progress. Our vessel appeared to leak more than she had done, and the inexperience of our navigators gave us great anxiety; but our trust was still in God alone.

*Wednesday, April 18th.*—Still we were off the Shebar, but had made little progress during the night; at twelve o'clock there was a tornado; the wind blew powerfully twenty or thirty minutes, and was accompanied with considerable rain. These tornadoes are nothing to be compared with the hurricanes which are common among the West India islands.

*Thursday morning, April 19th.*—We were within sight of the Shebar, and had a delightful air after the rains. Laying off and on with our vessel, hoping a pilot would come off to our assistance; several guns were fired as signals for pilots, but none came; therefore, we had but two alternatives, one was to sail round the island, which as the wind is light requires seven or ten days; the other was to send our boat over the Shebar for a pilot. As our sailors were unwilling to go in the boat, I prevailed upon them by proposing to accompany them. After approaching as near the Shebar as was thought prudent, the vessel was brought to anchor at four o'clock, P. M. The boat was manned with the mate of the vessel and three natives, one a sailor, the others Kroomen. The mate although a tolerably good boatman, apprehended more danger than I did, for I had not much experience in crossing such bars. At length we started in the boat, and approached near the bar. It appeared dangerous indeed. The mate being at the rudder, gave directions to the oarsmen to obey him promptly; he told them he should watch the motion of the waves, and that, when he ordered them to pull at the oars, they must pull for their lives. We soon found our boat first soaring over the turbulent waves, then plunging into the deep, while the waves were rolling in quick succession after us, each appearing as if it would envelop us in the ocean. One wave poured about sixty gallons of water into the boat, which caused me active employment in lading out the water; the boat

having been brought quartering to the waves, it required quick exertion by the men at the oars, who were somewhat frightened, but were enabled to bring the boat to its proper position before the succeeding wave came, which wafted us over the greatest danger; by that time I had nearly laded out the water. Indeed, it was mercy to us that we were not swallowed up. Not unto us! not unto us! but unto thy name, O God, be all the glory, both now and for ever!

We soon after arrived at Bohol, where we obtained a pilot. The boatmen remained until the tide favoured us the next morning. Lewis Tucker is head-man at Bohol; he has many people, and it is feared that he and his brothers have not wholly abolished the slave trade, though they do not carry it on as publicly as at former times.

I obtained a passage to Yonie, in one of Tucker's canoes that evening, where I arrived at nine o'clock, and found the American free people of colour who had survived of the first expedition. I went to the house where Nathaniel Brander resides; he had the people and goods in charge. I was very much fatigued, from having been wet in the boat, and afterwards exposed to the damps of the evening. I soon learnt the condition of the people, and found they were in good health; they had previously received some small supplies from Mr. Winn, at Sierra Leone. After partaking of some refreshment, which Brander caused to be prepared, I read a chapter in the Bible, and returned thanks to Almighty God for the great mercy and deliverance of the past day.

### O Lord!

“When waves on waves, to heav'n uprear'd,  
 Defy'd the pilot's art,  
 When terror in each face appear'd,  
 And sorrow in each heart,  
 To thee I rais'd my humble pray'r,  
 To snatch me from the grave!  
 I found thine ear not slow to hear,  
 Nor short thine arm to save!”

I consider my preservation that day as one of the most extraordinary manifestations of Divine grace to me during my life.

*Yonie, Friday morning, 20th April.*—I arose somewhat indisposed from the fatigues and extreme exposure of the preceding evening. I visited Prince Cong Kouber; he is a fine healthy man, well formed, handsome featured, and his very countenance indicating shrewdness. He speaks English so as to be understood tolerably well; is a man of but few words, with much observation, and is indeed possessed of more power than the king, although the latter is acknowledged by his subjects: Kouber is prime minister and manages as he pleases. The kings on the Main are not well pleased with king Sherbro, who resides at Yonie; so that that perhaps was one cause which prevented Mr. Coker, from negotiating with them for lands. But the principal reason was, Kizzel having

caused the agents and people to make a temporary stay at his place. The authorities of the whole country consider him a "stranger," (an intruder,) and, as he was employed in assisting Mr. Coker in endeavouring to negotiate for lands, they thought that he would monopolize the presents: moreover, he had already the trade with our people. Even while they were sick, and were in want of fresh provisions, Kizzel established himself as a huckster, and bought cheap and sold dear; and Mr. Coker being at the palaver, they were compelled to submit to the imposition. Having seen all the American people who are at Yonie, and found that notwithstanding sickness and death had occurred, and other difficulties as might have been expected from the decease of their agents, and their having been left under the authority of a man of colour, they being unwilling to be governed by one of their own race, yet they were much pleased with the country, and with the intelligence that lands had been negotiated for, and the expectation that they should soon be in possession of a suitable portion which they could call their own.

At 4 o'clock, P. M. our schooner arrived and anchored in the bay of Yonie. We had more trouble with our captain, who unmercifully beat some of the sailors and the Kroomen, which had been extremely unpleasant to brother Andrus, and our native missionaries, who were heralds of mercy and peace.

We feared that we should have trouble with the king and natives at Sherbro; that when our people should remove from there, they would extort very much for cottage rents, notwithstanding they have received large presents, and have given nothing in return: it having been known to them that Kizzel had charged sixty dollars per month for one single hut, while it was occupied by our people.

*Saturday morning, 21st April.*—We left some small supplies which we could spare from the schooner, as the people would soon be in need, unless they were removed. We then made the necessary preparations for our departure; we bought a sheep of Kouber, for which we gave eight pounds of leaf tobacco.

Despatch of business appears to be quite out of practice; it was near night before we could prevail on our captain to weigh anchor and get the vessel under way. We proceeded on to Kizzell's Place, which is from 15 to 20 miles distance. At 7 o'clock, P. M. we arrived at York island, where Martin, after anchoring the schooner, went on shore to visit his wife, who is a native. We obtained from the natives, who came on board, four or five gallons of honey, which cost about as many pounds of leaf tobacco; likewise, several mats and some cocoanuts, fowls, vegetables, &c.

*Sunday morning, 22d April.*—We concluded that it was a duty for us to proceed on, as the wind and tide were in our favour, and as moreover, we had been informed that the winds were very variable in Sherbro Bay, and that frequently vessels were detained there one or more weeks on that account.

At 4 o'clock, P. M. we arrived at Campelar (Kizzell's Place).

I probably did not go on shore without possessing some prejudice against Kizzell. But, indeed, I was very much surprised at his malignant conduct. After we had made ourselves known to him, he appeared somewhat disconcerted at seeing the successors of our deceased friends. He, doubtless, felt some compunctions on account of his baseness. Our intention was to tarry but a short time on shore. We asked him to show us the ground where our predecessors and people were buried, and we expressed a wish to see his "meridian," [spring] as he sometimes denominates it. At length we walked to his spring, and in the very appearance of the water saw an indication of its impurity; it appeared to be in a state of fermentation, and, I must confess, I did not wish to taste it.

After we returned, we passed by his church, as he denominates it. It was built in the native style, and would contain about one hundred people. There was a kind of desk on which lay a Bible and hymn book. But if the life and conduct of the speaker were as humble as the appearance of the house, they would better correspond. May the Lord give him grace to repent; and may he be forgiven.

We also visited the graves of our friends, and found them so situated that the spring tides overflow them. Indeed Kizzell was under the necessity of building a mud wall along the beach, to prevent the water from flowing quite into his cottages. The island is low, bad land, literally a mangrove swamp, unfit for cultivating with any degree of comfort or profit. The exhalations from its soils renders the atmosphere very unpleasant. This made our return on board the vessel desirable. It is indeed unpleasant to dwell upon Kizzell's conduct, though it may be deemed necessary to make some exposition of its baseness. While viewing those solitary abodes of our friends, I said to Kizzell, I conclude you have no objections to those corpses remaining here, as a removal would be inexpedient, and the ground is of no value? His reply was, that the Rev. Samuel Bacon agreed, at the burial of Dr. Samuel A. Crozer, and Captain Townsend, that he would cause them to be removed after lands should be obtained, and the settlers located on them; and he seemed to expect a fulfilment of that agreement. I then put the question thus: Do you expect an equivalent if those bodies should remain? He seemed to endeavour to evade a direct answer, and said that they ought to be removed. I then said to him, Are you willing that they should remain here, if you have pay for the ground? His answer was in the affirmative. He had at the same time already sent an account to Sierra Leone, to Mr. Winn, principal agent, amounting to almost \$800 dollars; and yet his avaricious appetite was not satisfied. We left Kizzell, with our prejudices increased rather than lessened.

*Monday morning, April 23d.*—At six o'clock, we weighed anchor, but we had not proceeded far, before a canoe which Tamba had purchased, and which was tied slightly to the vessel with a rope, parted, the wind blowing powerfully, and we sailing very

fast. This caused us to anchor, having previously manned our boat and sent for the canoe. Martin was told that the canoe was unsafe in her present situation. But we had reason to think that he was willing to protract the voyage on account of his being profitably employed. He knew if the wind continued, and we proceeded on without obstacle, we should soon arrive so far down the bay as to have the benefit of the sea breeze, which prevails after ten o'clock A. M. and thus reach Sierra Leone in a short time.

At 8 o'clock, P. M. we anchored near the Plantain islands. We were very anxious to hear from Sierra Leone. Brother Andrus had concluded to return to America, and we were in hopes that the Nautilus had not left Sierra Leone, but that he might avail himself of the opportunity of returning by her. If disappointed in this resolution, he had resolved to go by the way of England, which must necessarily increase both the time and expense.

He was induced to yield to this determination by the probability that the American blacks would not be removed to the Bassa country, until after the rainy season; and that, therefore, the assistance of all the agents would not be necessary to administer to their wants. Having discovered the want of missionaries in Africa, and the ardent desire of the natives to receive them, he had formed the resolution to resign his appointment as agent to the Colonization Society, and return to these shores in the capacity of a missionary, and here spend the remainder of his days in his Master's service, as had been his wish before leaving America.

*Tuesday, April 24th.*—Having as usual come to anchor last night, we got under sail this morning, at six o'clock. At half past eight o'clock, A. M. brother Andrus and Tamba, left the schooner, and went in our boat, in company with two Kroomen in a canoe, which Tamba had bought for the purpose of leaving us. His object was to go and labour as a missionary, in the Sherbro country. He had determined to do so before our arrival at Sierra Leone; but Mr. Johnson, learning that we were in want of interpreters to explore the coast, proposed, that he should accompany us on our excursion, and that he should stop at Sherbro on our return. The wind was very light, and we made slow progress, and soon came to anchor. At two o'clock brother Andrus met us, after our vessel had got under way.

He was much pleased with his visit to the Plantains, and said the islands were delightfully situated and very fertile. He was agreeably entertained by the owner of them, George Caulker, who was a native African, educated in England. He found him employed in writing, his table being well furnished with papers. He learnt that he had translated the liturgy of the Church of England into the Bullum *language*, and was engaged in translating the Bible, and had made considerable progress in the book of Genesis. O! how cheering is the thought that the time is fast approaching, and near at hand, when the Bullum people will read and hear in their own language, of the wonderful works of God; and this too, through the instrumentality of one of their own kindred and tribe,

who hath, perhaps, been concerned in that *bane* of Africa, the slave trade ; but who, after having acquired an English education, and received the influences of the Holy Spirit in his heart, has been induced to commence the laudable work of translating the pages of the Book of Life.

Mr. Andrus found Caulker to be a man of talents ; and obtained from him much useful information. Caulker professed an attachment to the Protestant Episcopal Church of England, and is thought to be a pious man. Mr. Andrus informed him of the subject of our mission, and that we had negotiated for lands in the Bassa country. Caulker stated that he had travelled into the interior of that country, and that he deemed it the most eligible situation for our settlement of any on the coast, being as it was situated in the centre of the Grain Coast. He said that its inhabitants were unwarlike, and less hostile than any of the neighbouring tribes—that the coast was accessible to small vessels, and that large ships might lie at anchor within two or three miles distance ; and moreover, that its soil was equal, if not superior, to any other on the western coast, and its herds far preferable. Caulker exhibited some neat cattle and swine as a specimen, they having been brought from the Bassa country. Mr. A. said the swine were equal to those in America in general, and the neat cattle superior to any he had ever seen in Africa.

Caulker's house was furnished in English style ; his dress accorded with it, and he had an English school on his island.

Before he left the Plantain island, brother Andrus inquired of Caulker whether the lime trees were growing on that island, which the Rev. John Newton planted, while a slave in Africa. Mr. Caulker said they were still growing, and showed them to Mr. Andrus. Mr. A. plucked some branches, and brought them to Sierra Leone.

Caulker, like all others who have had any intercourse with Kizzell, consider him an unprincipled man and "a stranger" in the country, and that our people could not have stopped at a more unsuitable spot than Campelar. Tamba commenced his missionary tour among the Sherbro (Bullum) people, with two Kroonen to paddle his canoe.—Tamba and Davis are supported by the Church Missionary Society in England, and they appear to be useful good men.

*Wednesday morning, April 25th.*—We were between the Banana islands and Cape Shilling, and had a fair view of each ; Cape Shilling is the place where the late Rev. Samuel Bacon died.

He left Campelar (Kizzell's Place) about the last of April, 1820, in an open boat, for the purpose of going to Sierra Leone, in order to procure medical aid. He expected to fall in with an English vessel, but he was not in time. Therefore, he directed his men to proceed on in the boat ; he arrived at Cape Shilling on the first of May. Cape Shilling is an English settlement of recaptured Africans. A Captain Randle was the English agent, residing there. He received the Rev. Mr. Bacon into the mission-house, and hos-

pitably administered to his wants, as did also Mrs. Randle. They affectionately acted the part of the good Samaritan, and rendered him every assistance in their power—For which I gave them my most hearty thanks; as I visited them at Freetown, soon after our arrival. And I pray God Almighty to bless and reward them in this world, and in that which is to come.

Alas! the extreme anxiety of mind, of my dear brother, and his most arduous labours among the American people of colour, at Kizzell's Place; being as he was constantly employed with the sick and dying both day and night, while sick himself, with the use of that bad water, which it was said Kizzell did not use even in his own family of native Africans, proved too much for him. On the third day of May, 1820, he departed this life; and we have good reason to believe he is with Christ, which is far better. He was buried in a decent manner. Mr. and Mrs. Randle paid him the last acts of benevolence.

In him I lost an affectionate and dear brother, and a brother in Christ.

I did not go on shore at Cape Shilling; therefore, I could not visit the grave of dear Samuel. The wind was fair which wafted us along.

*Thursday, April 26.*—We had a head wind, and many difficulties to encounter. We caught, however, an abundance of fish. Our greatest difficulty was, as we came into the harbour of Sierra Leone. Captain Martin, (as if he had not caused us sufficient trouble) managing the vessel, to bring her into port, did not take in sail in time and let go the anchor, but let her run against the wharf, and it was with great difficulty that we got her off again, and brought her to an anchor.

Indeed our troubles have been neither few nor small; sometimes I have thought they were enough to exhaust the patience of a Job, or appal the faith of a Moses. But the Lord had hitherto blessed us, therefore we give him all of the glory both now and evermore.

*Sierra Leone, Friday, April 27th.*—We had learned that the Nautilus had sailed on her return to America, so that brother Andrus resolved to return by the way of England.

At 10 o'clock, we visited Foura Bay Farm, which is about two miles from Freetown. There we found Mr. Winn, conveniently located with the blacks who accompanied us from America, together with some of those from Sherbro. There is a large mansion-house and several out-houses, and tenements, sufficiently capacious for the accommodation of the people, and the storage of the goods, provisions, &c. which Mr. Winn negotiated for about two weeks after we sailed down the coast. We found our friends in tolerable health, though there had been some slight cases of illness, accompanied with fever, but they had mostly subsided, and the coloured people said they were well pleased with Africa: they had lands suitable for cultivation, and had made some progress.

After informing our friends of our obtaining lands, &c. Mr. Andrus and myself, went back to Freetown, where he went on board



the schooner, and I visited the Rev. Samuel Flood, chaplain of the English colony: after I had dined with him, he very politely furnished me with a horse, on which I rode to Regent's town, where my wife was sick of a fever; she had the attack on the evening previous, but it was not very violent. We had abundant reason to be thankful to God, for his mercy, in sparing us to see each other again in this world.

Mrs. Bacon was very politely and hospitably treated at good Mr. Johnson's: she, morning and evening, enjoyed in the church, the sight of the children of Ethiopia, stretching out their hands unto God, and united with them in praising his most holy name.

Mr. Johnson was delighted to hear that we had made a contract for lands in the Bassa country: he is very much interested in the accomplishment of our several designs for the improvement of the African race. He is a faithful minister of Christ, and labours to save the souls of his fellow men. We found it good to unite again with those who daily offered up their supplications in our behalf at the throne of grace.

*Regent's town, Saturday morning, April 28th.*—My wife is just able to walk by leaning upon my arm; anxiety of mind perhaps was one cause of her illness. At one o'clock, P. M. she appears to be worse; she had a physician, who daily attends Miss Johnson, who is also sick; four o'clock, there is not much alteration, rather worse. At six o'clock, P. M. the people are assembled in church, where there is reading, praising and praying: it is indeed gratifying to see the improvements which are made here; the very hills resound with the praises of God, and of the Lamb. O that the Lord would cause his word to extend from the rivers to the ends of the earth!

*Regent's town, Sunday morning, 29th April.*—Mrs. Bacon is very ill: she is attended by Dr. Macauley Wilson, a native of the Bulum tribe; he was educated in England, is an assistant surgeon in this colony; a decent, well-behaved man; and is considered skilful in his profession. This morning the church was filled at six o'clock, as is usual, and a lesson was read, together with singing and prayers: after which we breakfasted, and then had prayers in the family. Mrs. Bacon appears to be worse. O Lord, the issues of life and death are in thine hand.

At ten o'clock the people were all in motion, coming to the church from all parts of the town. O! these are the fruits of the labours of a faithful missionary, accompanied by the blessings of that God who has said, "in the morning sow thy seed, and in the evening withhold not thy hand; for thou knowest not which shall prosper, this or that."

At 3 o'clock, the people are again flocking together to hear the word of life. Their very countenances show that they are anxious to learn of HIM who is meek and lowly of heart. "These are times which kings and prophets desired to see," but did not see them; and as I walk around the house in the piazza, I can see all parts of the settlement, and there is scarcely an individual to be seen—all

are at church. Indeed "these people live a life of prayer and praise." At 6 o'clock this evening the goodly shepherd again brake the bread of life to his flock, whose appetites seem to crave more of that, which, if a man eat thereof, he shall live forever. Thus the labours of the Rev. Mr. Johnson are perpetuated; he preaches twice or thrice every Sabbath, and has prayers in church morning and evening, besides prayer meetings and lectures.

At 9 o'clock Mrs. Bacon appears no better; the fever seems to increase.

*Monday morning, April 30th.*—Mrs. Bacon was worse last night than at any time previous. I remain with her while the family are at prayers, but it is deemed necessary that we should separate for a short time. As we know every thing which could tend to meliorate her sufferings would be undoubtedly done; and as there was business to transact at Foura Bay, discharging the schooner's crew, and consulting with the agents upon the propriety of removing the people from Sherbro, or sending them some necessaries of life; therefore, my dear wife and myself deemed it expedient for me to go, and leave the event to GOD, who doeth all things well. After imploring God's blessing on us, I left Regent's town, with an expectation of visiting it again on the Wednesday evening following. These are times which are calculated to try me, of what spirit I am. As I walked from Regent's town, it was a time of self-examination. I inquired whether I was, or was not sorry that I came to Africa; but I had expected sickness to occur, and perhaps death; and I concluded if we were to die in endeavouring to benefit the heathen, and destroy that most detestable traffic, the slave trade, it would be in as good a cause as we could desire. I was fully confirmed in the opinion, that Africa presented an ample field for the exercises of benevolence, and that the Christian world owed her a debt of gratitude; therefore, left the event to GOD alone, and endeavoured to seek his direction.

I arrived at Foura Bay at 10 o'clock, A. M. and found some slight illness among the people of colour, but nothing alarming, except the case of one woman, who was in a decline before she left America. I discharged the crew from the schooner in the bay, and placed some of our men on board to take care of her.

*Tuesday morning, May 1st.*—A messenger arrived with a note from Mr. Johnson, which informed me that Mrs. Bacon had less fever than on the morning I left her; I immediately despatched the messenger. Having exerted myself overmuch, and suffered considerable anxiety of mind, and having moreover drank too freely of water, which is thought to be prejudicial to the health of white people in Africa; at 11 o'clock, A. M. I felt somewhat indisposed; perspiration ceased; I was attacked with pain in the back part of the head, neck, and back. I immediately went on board the schooner, where brother Andrus and myself still had our lodgings; took some medicine and retired to my birth. I soon found a chilliness to pervade the whole system. I even found it necessary to use flannel blankets. After about two hours, the chill was suc-

ceeded by fever, which continued until nine in the evening, when it intermitted, the medicine having had its desired effect. The stomach being in a state for the reception of tonics, and brother Andrus having a small treatise of practice, by Dr. Winterbottom, which directed bark to be given in as large quantities as the stomach would receive, brother Andrus followed that plan during the night, and attended to me very kindly.

*Wednesday morning, 2d May.*—No fever, and continued to use the bark until 4 o'clock, P. M. Dr. Macauley Wilson arrived; after he had been informed of the course which had been pursued, highly approved of it; he then gave me two calomel pills, which had the desired effect, after which the bark was continued.

*Thursday morning, 3d May, Foura Bay.*—At four o'clock a chill came on again, succeeded by fever, which continued until three o'clock, P. M. After it had intermitted, brother Andrus again gave me the bark, two or three teaspoonfuls once an hour. I had become very much debilitated for so short an illness. A message came from Mr. Johnson, saying that Mrs. Bacon had not as much fever.

*Monday morning, 7th May.*—Being a little better, I went on shore for the purpose of remaining. Mrs. Bacon, who had heard of my illness, was brought as far as Gloucester, where she became too ill to proceed. These were trials of faith; but during my whole sickness, that peace was experienced which "passeth knowledge."

During the following days, I received several notes from the Rev. Mr. Doring, at Gloucester, by one of his servants, which informed me of the low state of Mrs. Bacon's health, and kindly stated that every means should be exerted to make her as comfortable as the circumstances of her case would admit; however, her anxiety about me was so great, that it was thought by her physician, that a removal to Foura Bay would probably be beneficial. Mr. Johnson, therefore, again sent six or eight of his captured people with a palanquin, accompanied by Dr. Wilson, who caused her to be removed, although she was unable to sit up. At length the company arrived. Our heavenly Father permitted us once more to meet in this world, and unite our thanksgiving to Him who is all in all to those that love the Lord Jesus Christ.

*Sunday morning, May 13th.*—About two o'clock, two of the officers of the United States schooner Alligator arrived at Foura Bay, they having anchored off the harbour of Freetown the preceding evening. We were much rejoiced to see them so ardently engaged in the laudable work of annoying the detestable slave trade.

On Sundays there are meetings in the settlement, at which the coloured preachers generally officiate, and they often meet for prayers in the evenings during the week.

*Monday, 14th May.*—We had the pleasure of seeing lieutenant commandant Stockton, of the Alligator, by whose politeness we received a number of communications from the United States.

*Tuesday morning, 15th May.*—The Alligator sailed on a cruise

to the south-eastward in search of slaving vessels. Mrs. Bacon still remains very ill.

Mr. Winn and myself deemed it expedient to repair the schooner *Augusta*, for the purpose of removing the people from Yonie, to the Bassa country, as soon as the rainy season subsides, or sooner if thought best. It was determined that I should cause the schooner to be examined.

*Wednesday, 16th May.*—Brother Andrus is preparing to leave us, on his return to the United States, by the way of England; very little can be done during the rains, except attending to the wants of the people.

*Thursday morning, 17th May.*—This day I walked to Freetown, a distance of about two miles, for the purpose of procuring a ship-carpenter, to examine the schooner and ascertain her condition, and succeeded in obtaining one: I visited Mr. Justice Crage, who very politely proposed that I should ride back, and lent me his horse for that purpose. This day's exertion nearly proved fatal. On my return, I also found Mrs. Bacon very ill, so that our hopes of speedy recovery were blasted, and the prospects of future usefulness clouded; however, we still continued to look for help to God alone.

*Friday, 18th May.*—From this date not having kept a regular diary, I shall only mention occurrences of the most importance. The ship-carpenter examined the vessel and reported her worthy of repairs; he was therefore employed to repair her as speedily as possible; but despatch of business being uncommon, we were taught to expect that probably six or eight weeks would be required to fit her for use.

*June 1st.*—For the past two weeks, Mrs. Bacon and myself have been unable to attend to very little business of any kind. Mr. Winn has been ill a few days. Mr. Andrus has engaged his passage for England, and expects to sail in about ten days; he is much pleased with the prospects of being useful in Africa, and appears to be extremely well calculated for a missionary as well as an agent, the climate agreeing with his constitution; his health, hitherto, has been better than that of any of the agents.

*June 11th, Monday.*—Mrs. Bacon and myself are still rather worse, more debilitated, particularly myself. We are so ill that brother Andrus has suggested to us the propriety of his remaining in my stead, and Mrs. Bacon and myself going to the United States, it being supposed a sea voyage would prove beneficial to our healths. Having been at Freetown for the purpose of making some arrangements concerning his passage to England, and learnt that a schooner, which was a prize vessel, but had been purchased by the honourable K. Macauley, is about to be sent to Barbadoes for sale, and in this schooner he has been offered a passage free of expense. On his first making the offer, I told him I did not feel disposed to go, as I had not thought of returning; but, after further reflection, I consulted my physician, who advised our taking the voyage. I consulted also Mr. Winn on the subject, and finally I concluded

to embrace the opportunity, provided Mrs. Bacon and myself could obtain a passage. Mr. Andrus went again to Freetown, and obtained a passage for us in the same schooner, being politely and gratuitously offered by the honourable K. Macauley. Thus Mr. Andrus very kindly consented to remain and assist Mr. Winn, if he desired it, in my stead; for which kindness, as well as for making the necessary preparations for the outfit, I feel much indebted to him.

*Wednesday, 13th June.*—Our baggage was removed to the boat, and we were by the assistance of our friends supported to the boat. We arrived at the schooner about six o'clock, P. M. very much exhausted; we rested but indifferently during the night; the next morning brought with it troubles long to be remembered, but I hope never to forget the goodness of God in sustaining us by his grace: at about 9 o'clock the heat became oppressive; Mrs. Bacon was taken extremely ill, and had she not obtained immediate aid would probably have survived but a short time. But the timely assistance of Dr. Riche, an English surgeon, by the blessing of God, rendered her relief; at the same time I became worse myself. Thus situated, neither of us able to help the other, just embarking on a voyage of five thousand miles, a voyage too which we had recently found very irksome, when we were enjoying the best of health, it was by no means pleasant.—When we came on board, the time of our departure was not fixed; but as there was every day more or less rain, our healths required that we should avail ourselves of the first opportunity to get on board, that we might be in readiness to sail at any moment, when the vessel should be prepared. During the time of our laying in the harbour, we were both more ill than at any time previous; we were situated in the cabin in opposite births, one on each side, unable to assist each other, or to help ourselves; the coloured man who was to accompany us was employed in procuring the necessary supplies, so that he could be with us but little. Brother Andrus\* visited us occasionally, which ren-

\* The Rev. Joseph R. Andrus departed this life on the 28th July, 1821, after a short illness, at Sierra Leone, on the coast of Africa. By the death of this pious and worthy man, the church and the cause of humanity have sustained an additional loss. "When the glories of the mightiest and proudest conqueror that ever dazzled the world with the splendour of his exploits, shall have faded away, and have been rolled in that oblivious tide which sweeps away all that man calls good and great, the names of Andrus, and Bacon, and Mills, shall shine bright in the philanthropic page. The sons of Africa shall tell to their latest descendants, how these men of God left father and mother, and brother and sister, and all the sweet endearments of friendship and of home, to cross the wide ocean, and dwell beneath the burning sky, and the blasting heats of her inhospitable wilds, and counted not their own lives dear unto them, that they might preach the unsearchable riches of Christ. Their infants shall be taught to lisp the names of these benefactors of their race, to lift their hearts in gratitude to Him who inclined these servants of the Most High to go forth in order to prepare in their desert a highway to the Lord."

Since the death of the above, we have to record the melancholy intelligence of the deaths of Mr. and Mrs. Winn, who died at the same place in the month of August, 1821.

dered our situation more agreeable; still, however, we were often under the necessity of calling on the captain, and S. Easton, esq. the supercargo. When they were on board they were very obliging to us. These were solemn hours. As we viewed each other, it appeared probable that the time of our separation was near at hand. Still our hope was in God.

At length we took leave of our friends on Saturday, the 16th of June, and sailed out of the harbour of Sierra Leone with the morning tide, but did not proceed far before evening. In the evening I was much worse; indeed it was a time long to be remembered: I had no expectations of surviving; accordingly I gave directions to my wife, and commended her, together with the cause in which we were engaged, to HIM who has promised to be a father to the fatherless, and the widow's God. Death appeared fast approaching, and I must say that grim messenger had lost his terrors, and I could then exclaim, "O grave, where is thy victory!" It was solemn but interesting to behold the dear wife of my bosom, though unable to help herself, making what appeared to be the last effort to render my last moments comfortable. The exercises of my mind, under these circumstances, I am unable to describe. The happiness of which I then enjoyed a foretaste, was unspeakable; not that I had merited any thing of myself, neither was I worthy of the comfort with which I was favoured; Christ was all in all.

*Sunday morning, 17th June.*—I awoke, and was astonished to find myself in this troublesome world. I was exercised with dreadful pains, which pervaded my whole system. For a considerable time I was unable to speak. Discovering our family Bible lying near, I made signs for it to be given to me, which it was. I soon spoke; I had no distinct recollections of the exercises of my mind during the night, but I imagined that I had arisen from the bed of death. I then thought I esteemed the Bible much more highly than I had ever before; I considered it holy indeed, and that almost a touch would pollute it. Probably the change of air, and the motion of the vessel caused the fever to form a crisis, which the constitution, by Divine assistance, was enabled to endure.

After this, a gradual recovery took place; my wife was my physician, and constant attendant. Still we found difficulties which were unpleasant. The captain and mate were Englishmen, and several of the crew; but several others were Spaniards, beside which there were some negroes. To these the Spaniards took a dislike, from the time of embarkation: several rencounters took place; the Spaniards not unfrequently threatened the lives of the negroes; but Mr. Easton (the supercargo), the captain, and sometimes Mrs. Bacon, dissuaded them from executing their horrid threats. We were, however, fearful that murder would be committed, as the Spaniards were of that class of perpetrators taken from the slave-ships, and were permitted to leave or rather were banished from the English colony.—There was great danger of their raising a mutiny, so that the captain, supercargo and mate, were always on the watch, having their arms near at hand, even

when they retired to rest. Those fears rendered our passage not as agreeable as it otherwise would have been: the officers were very obliging at all times. At length we arrived at the island of Barbadoes, the windward island of the West Indies, on the 10th of July, with our healths somewhat repaired. This island is situated pleasantly, under a well regulated government, established by the British. Mrs. Bacon and myself were just able to walk from the wharf to the boarding-house, about forty or fifty yards distance. There we remained four days, after which we took passage in an English vessel for Martinique, where we arrived in about twenty-four hours. We remained in Martinique until the 29th of July. This island we found to be very sickly, and we were more debilitated when we left it, than we were when we arrived. We took passage from thence in an American schooner, commanded by J. Pennington, of Great Eggharbour, and for about eight days we had a delightful passage; after that we were almost becalmed, and at length a storm came on, the wind N. E. which carried us into the Gulf stream; we arrived within a short distance of Cape Lookout, then tacked ship and lay to under a short-reefed foresail about three days, the greater part of the time in the gulf, which caused me to be very sea-sick. At length the storm abated, and on Monday, the 13th August, we had a brisk wind, which wafted us into Hampton Roads, and on Tuesday we arrived at Norfolk, in a convalescent state of health.

Notwithstanding our troubles have been neither few nor small, yet more abundantly has been the grace of God afforded us; therefore we give Him all the glory, both now and for ever.

## APPENDIX.

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*Extract from No. XLII. of the North American Review for January, 1824.*

IN their own country, the negroes are an inquisitive people; they have a high respect for learning, and are fond of having their children instructed.

Wherever they have been visited by the whites, they have expressed a willingness to have teachers come among them, and to send their youths abroad to be educated. It has been no uncommon thing for chiefs to put their sons under the care of captains of slave ships, who have taken them to the West Indies, placed them at school for a stated time, and then sent them home. Children from the neighbourhood of Sierra Leone have been educated in England, and then returned to their friends. Sixteen years ago there were eight missionaries in the Susoo country, who enjoyed the protection of the chiefs, and were encouraged by them to establish schools. They lived in tranquillity, and were successful, till they undertook to interfere in matters of state, suggest changes in the government and laws, and thus, in the spirit of the more shrewd Jesuits, to act the triple character of schoolmasters, divines, and politicians. They were then dismissed from the country, though not without regret on the part of the chiefs, who were pleased with the instructions they had given. A valuable monument of their labours still exists in a Susoo Grammar and Vocabulary, a translation of a part of the New Testament, and several tracts. This task was chiefly performed by Mr. Brunton, aided by a number of Susoo youths, who had lived in England. Among the Susoo people, whose language is spoken over a territory larger than Great Britain, these works are now to be found.

The Arabic is spoken and written by a few persons in nearly all parts of the interior, of which any knowledge has been obtained. Young persons are sent to a great distance to be instructed in Arabic learning, which, after all, consists in little else, than being able to read the Koran, and speak and write the language. We have been made acquainted, from the best authority, with one instance, in which a young man was sent to Timbuctoo for an education of this sort, from the banks of the Rio Pongas, a distance of fifteen hundred miles. Some of the more distinguished chiefs correspond with one another in Arabic, and give passports to travellers in the same language. We have before us a translation of an address, originally written in Arabic, and sent three years ago by Dakhaba, king of Bambarana, to the 'kings and chiefs of the West,' or in humbler phrase, to the governor of Sierra Leone, and king George of England. It is couched in a gorgeous style of oriental hyperbole, worthy of a Dey of Algiers, or a Bashaw of Tripoli, and shows at least, that the sense of regal dignity is far from being extinct in the breasts of the monarchs, whose dominions spread over the sources of the Niger and the Gambia. We have also seen a



specimen of Arabic composition from the hand of an African, now a slave in this country, which was not only written with readiness and ease, but with striking elegance of chirography. He is from the interior of Africa, and was taught in his own country.

These facts prove all we desire in the present connexion, which is, that the natives of Africa are in some degree sensible of their ignorance, and willing to be made wiser. Could a more propitious beginning be imagined, or a field be better prepared for culture? You have no obstinacy to conquer, no wild and restless wanderings of a thoroughly savage disposition to tame, no contempt of knowledge and the refinement of civilized life to soften, no torpid indifference to rouse, no spectres of a paralyzing superstition to dispel. You have minds to deal with naturally simple and artless, tractable in temper, docile, ready to learn, and requiring only the use of judicious means properly applied.

These positions are verified, not more by the above facts, than by the instance of Sierra Leone. In the twelve schools of that colony, there are now two thousand persons of different ages, under the care of about thirty teachers. Their general good deportment, and progress in learning, are represented, by the committees appointed to examine the schools, in terms the most flattering. They were all recaptured from slave ships. Some have already become teachers themselves, and gone out to instruct the tribes bordering on the colony. The mechanic arts, agriculture, the plainer branches of manufactures, and whatever gives a spur to invention, value to labour, a right direction to power, strength to morals, and refinement to thought, may well be reckoned among the elements of an African education, which the natives are glad to learn and capable of receiving.

But with none of these things can the natives become acquainted, except through the agency of colonization. They must be taught at home, or not at all; if they are ever to be raised to a higher rank, and to know the blessings of civilized life, it must be on the soil which gave them birth. And what should prevent a colony, founded on just principles, from communicating to the extent of its influence all needed instruction? We do not expect the natives of Africa will become at once adepts in science, literature, or the arts; nor do we look for the time, when they are to be statesmen, orators, poets, philosophers. Whether they will ever shine as luminaries in the world of mind and sentiment, is a question we are not ambitious to solve. Whether their future poets will rival the ancient bards of Dahomy, who are said to have rehearsed poems, which took up several days in the recital, may be left to the speculation of the curious. Even central Africa boasts of its antiquity, and, if the legends tell truth, when Orpheus was charming the forests into life, and Hesiod was tracing the genealogies of the gods, and weaving nature and time into song, and Homer was singing the wars of the Greeks and the wanderings of Ulysses, then the bards of Nigritia were celebrating the exploits of their heroes, and publishing the records of their renown in the ears of listening kings

and admiring nations. If such times have been, they are long gone by, and it is not among our fond dreams, that they are soon to be revived. Nay, we are willing to confess, that we hope more from the descendants of the countrymen of Hesiod and Homer, even under the cruel rod of a Turkish despotism, and what is scarcely less discouraging, the unfeeling neglect of a northern autocracy, which dreads that liberty should breathe in the earth, than we do from the degenerate Dahomans, or their equally unfortunate brethren of other nations, who have suffered for ages under the discipline of the slave trade. But notwithstanding this concession, we hold, that from competent teachers, and the example of a well organized community before their eyes, they may learn enough to qualify them for the happy state of society, which consists in a right use of the bounties of nature, and a proper estimate of the value of labour, industry, and virtue. Nothing more is hoped or desired from the immediate effects of a colony.

In regard to religious instruction, no heathens can be so easily initiated into the principles of Christianity, as the inhabitants of central and western Africa. They believe for the most part in a Supreme Being, but their notions are obscure, without system or consistency. They have no conceptions of the attributes of God, nor do they ascribe the operations of nature to his agency. When Artus told them, that their gold, fruits, and flocks were given them by the Deity, they replied, 'the earth gives us gold, the earth yields us maize and rice, the sea affords us fish, but if we do not labour ourselves, we may starve before our God will help us.' They believe in an evil and good principle, existing in distinct forms, each of which has power over them; and they are also strongly affected by charms, termed fetiches on the coast, and Obi in the West Indies. It matters not of what material the charm is made; when once consecrated in the imagination of the person whose reverence it commands, it is supposed to have a power little inferior to that of the Deity, and to hold in its mysterious virtues the destiny of mortals.

Such a religion has too few points of consistency to acquire any strength by age; its principles are too vague to gain a permanent entrance into the mind; it has nothing to engage the fancy or captivate the understanding. It is not like the magnificent fabric of Chinese theology, made sacred by the venerated names of ancient statesmen and sages, standing as the firmest pillar of the empire, and secured from innovation by the impermeable panoply of a language, which to change would be to destroy. Nor is it like the more philosophical, and perhaps more ancient system of the Hindoos, rendered imposing by its thousand volumes of commentaries, and perpetuated by an unceasing, overgrown priesthood. Nor is it like the monstrous folly of the Tartars, where the wretched idea of a Grand Lama has driven common sense from the minds of millions, and united them in an unconquerable system of visionary absurdity. In short, the world does not contain an uncivilized people, more free from the bias of heathenism, than the negroes.

The task of plucking out errors, and eradicating deep rooted superstitions, which is so formidable in most cases, is one of little difficulty with them. The soil is already prepared for the seed ; and this only requires to be scattered with a careful hand, and nurtured with gentleness and skill. The Mahometans have had good success, and many persons in the central parts of Africa have been brought over to their faith. What then may we not expect from the simple and engaging truths of Christianity ? Shall we say, that the sublime doctrines of Jesus, and the holy precepts of his religion, have less power to convert the heathen, than the profane vagaries of the Arabian impostor ; or that the rude followers of the latter have more zeal, than the humble disciples of the former ? What Christian will listen to so ungracious an imputation ? The inference must be allowed, then, both from a view of the religion of the negroes, and the success of Mahometanism among them, that they are better prepared, than any other barbarous people, to receive religious instruction and adopt new principles of faith. Thus may a colony be accessory to the advancement of religious truth, which could come from no other quarter, as well as to the civil improvement, temporal interests, and social happiness of the people among whom it is stationed.

Having now closed what we proposed to say on the *advantages* of colonization to this country and Africa, we proceed to a few hints on its *practicability*.

The objection, which has been urged with considerable emphasis against the Colonization Society, that the scheme of forming a colony in Africa is impracticable, we think sufficiently answered by the fact, that numerous colonies have been settled there, some of which are now of long standing. The Portuguese, the French, the Danes, and the English, have establishments scattered along the coast from Cape Verde to the Cape of Good Hope, which must no doubt be profitable to those governments, or they would not have been maintained till the present time. More than a century ago the French established a post on the Senegal, upwards of four hundred miles from its mouth ; at Congo the Portuguese have grown into a numerous colony ; and at the southern extremity of Africa, the Dutch and English together have spread over a country larger than the southern peninsula of Europe. As it is not, therefore, a question to be soberly discussed, whether it is possible for America to do what half a dozen other nations have done, the notion that colonization is impracticable hardly deserves to be considered.

We may here revert again to Sierra Leone, as affording an instance more directly in point for our present purpose, because it was founded on principles nearly allied to those of the Colonization Society. It was started by a private company, and the original settlers were taken from abroad. At the close of the American revolution many negroes, who had left their masters during the war, and gone over to the British standard, were dispersed in the Bahama Islands and Nova Scotia, where the white loyalists took refuge. Some found their way to London. Four hundred of these were

shipped by their own consent to Sierra Leone in 1787. The black settlers in Nova Scotia became dissatisfied with the rigorous treatment they received, and complained to the British ministry. Emigration was thought the only remedy, and twelve hundred accepted the invitation to be transported at the expense of the government to Sierra Leone, where they arrived five years after those from London. It thus appears, that the colony at Sierra Leone was first settled by negroes, who had been slaves in this country, habituated to the same climate, and possessing the same character, as the persons with whom it is contemplated to supply the new American colony. The Maroons from Jamaica did not arrive till 1805. The land was obtained by purchase of the natives.

For some time the colony proceeded but slowly; it was attacked by the French; the natives were hostile; sickness made its ravages; want and fatigue caused despondency. But these difficulties were conquered in due time; the lands were cleared; villages are now rising up, churches and schools are multiplying, agriculture has become a settled occupation, and society has assumed a shape denoting the regularity and happiness of civilized life. The Sierra Leone Colony now consists of twelve thousand inhabitants, nearly *ten thousand* of whom are recaptured Africans, thus rescued from an inhuman bondage, which would otherwise have been entailed on them and their posterity forever. Why shall not the colony at Mesurado accomplish as much in the same time? And should it promise no more, who will refuse to give his heart and his hands to a work, which may save ten thousand of his fellow beings from slavery and wretchedness?

It has been a good deal insisted on, as a proof of the impracticability of colonization, that emigrants could not be induced to embark. Experience has shown the futility of this objection. Volunteers have ever been ready in greater numbers, than the Society could receive, and at this time the names of more persons are on the list of application, than it would be prudent to send at once. They should not be suffered to go out faster than they can be well provided for, and we presume that two or three hundred a year would be quite as many as could find comfortable quarters in a new colony. The ratio of capacity for receiving others will of course increase very rapidly; it will be in proportion to the surplus of labour among the resident colonists, over what is necessary to supply their immediate wants. The avails of the rest can be appropriated to the use of new adventurers, in supplying them with food, houses, and other requisites of life. On this principle the time will come, in the natural progress of things, when there will be ability to provide for emigrants in Africa, as fast as the condition of the blacks, and the established order of society, will permit them to depart from this country. The early disasters at Sierra Leone were owing in a great measure to the numbers landed at once, without comfortable dwellings, clothes, provisions, and good attendance in sickness. Our own colony has experienced similar calamities from the same causes.

Again, it has been said, that the expense of transportation is so great, as to prevent its being carried to any available extent. This objection is founded on a false estimate of facts, as any one may be convinced, who will thoroughly examine the subject. The Society has sent out emigrants at fifty dollars a piece, and it might be done much lower, if the business were prosecuted on a large scale. Many coloured persons have property more than sufficient to pay their own passage, and laws might be passed to cause others to save their earnings, till they amounted to enough for their passage money. Besides, what should prevent some of our public vessels being employed in this work, and at an expense very little exceeding that, which is now required to keep them in service? And last of all, why should not a portion of the national revenue be appropriated to an object, which so vitally affects the rising interests of our confederacy?

Let it be our pride to follow, as far as the genius of our institutions will permit, the liberal and high minded example of a younger republic. The Government of Colombia has not only decreed, that 'all, of whatever colour, are entitled to the same privileges as white men,' but has enacted a statute for the gradual abolition of slavery within its own territory, by establishing a manumission fund, arising out of a tax on a portion of the property left by persons at their death. Why may not our Congress so far walk in the steps of the generous friends of humanity in Colombia, as to appropriate a reasonable amount to relieve the country from the nuisance and terror of the free black population? Or, should the argument from humanity and this example be thought of little weight, why should not such a measure be prompted by a regard for the deepest concerns and supreme welfare of the nation?

The unhealthiness of the climate is another objection, usually advanced against the practicability of a settlement in Africa. In respect to this, we beg permission again to refer to the European colonies, which have been so long in operation. That the coast of western Africa is unhealthy to northern constitutions, is not denied; but no proof has been exhibited, that it is more so than other tropical climates, or even the alluvial districts of the United States. Let a colony from the northern and middle states be transported to the low and fertile parts of the Carolinas, or to the banks of the Mississippi, in the warm season, and the mortality would be much greater, than has been known in Africa, even in the midst of the fatal rains. By Meredith, Wadstrom, Dr. Lind, and others, who have had an opportunity of being informed, it is stated with confidence, that the country about Sierra Leone is equal in salubrity to the most healthy of the West India Islands. The mortality of the colonists in Africa has not been more alarming, than it was among the original settlers of New England, and other parts of America. The unusual sickness of the first emigrants to Sierra Leone, and of those gone from this country, depended on incidental causes, many of which have no necessary connexion with the climate, and which will never occur to the same degree, when the forests shall

be cleared, the miasmata of decayed vegetation removed, and the people supplied with comfortable habitations, and wholesome food. On the whole, there seems no reason to suppose western Africa more unhealthy, than other parts of the world, to which people have emigrated for centuries, and where they have built cities, established governments, and grown into empires.

The local situation selected for our present colony, enjoys many positive advantages. In speaking of the tracts of country around Cape Monte and Cape Mesurado, Dr. Leyden says, 'These districts have been described by Des Marchais, Villault, Philips, Atkins, Bosman, and Smith, as pleasant, salubrious, and fertile.' Again he adds, 'Cape Mesurado is a detached mountain, steep and elevated towards the sea, with a gentle declivity on the land side. The adjacent country is extremely fertile, producing sugar cane, indigo, and cotton, without cultivation.'

No man is better acquainted with the coast of Africa, probably, than Sir George R. Collier, who has been the chief commander of the British squadron stationed there for three or four years. In his Second Report to the British government, respecting the settlements in Africa, he thus alludes to the attempt to form a colony at Sherbro. 'Had America,' he observes, 'who, excepting Great Britain, appears more in earnest than any other nation, established her lately attempted settlement at Cape Mesurado, or even at Cape Monte, she would at least have secured a more healthful, and by far a more convenient spot, than her late ill chosen one in the Sherbro. And an establishment by America, either at Cape Monte, or Cape Mesurado, would have afforded to the friends of humanity the most rational hopes, that in the immediate neighbourhood of the American colony, the demand for slaves would have been checked, and thus a settlement would have been formed, useful to the purposes of civilization; and from its actual, though distant intercourse with the frontiers of Gaman and Ashantee, have opened the line of lucrative speculation to the American merchant, and with the additional advantage of doing so without interfering in any way with the prosperity of the British colony of Sierra Leone.' These remarks are of more practical value, than volumes of speculations penned in this country, founded on conjecture, or deduced from abstract principles. They are from a person who enjoyed the best opportunities for observation, repeatedly traversed the coast, and whose business it was to supply his government with accurate knowledge. On this testimony, connected with that of our own agents, we are willing to rest, and are satisfied with the conviction, that Mesurado affords all the requisite facilities for building up an establishment, which ought to receive the cordial support of every friend of his species, every lover of right and freedom, and every sincere patriot in this country.

The formidable encroachment, which the present article has already made on our accustomed limits, compels us to desist from several remarks intended for this part of the subject. We trust, that from what has been said, our readers will be enabled to arrive

at a just understanding of the history and objects of the Colonization Society, the practicability of these objects, and the methods by which they may be attained. Much more might be added to illustrate this last topic, both in regard to the local circumstances of the colony at Mesurado, and to the means employed at home to supply it with emigrants; but the view we have taken is enough, we think, to justify us in the belief, that the plan in its outlines is well conceived, and wants only the vigorous co-operation of the public to make it entirely successful.

We should be glad, also, if we had room, to press a few of the reasons, why the particular attention of our national legislature is demanded to this colony, and to urge the importance of its being taken wholly under the charge and jurisdiction of the government. In regard to what is called the constitutional question, whether the United States have power to establish such a colony, we know not in what it differs from the question, whether they have power to put their own laws in execution, or take the only efficient measures to suppress an evil, whose contagion is daily spreading, and which threatens a more serious calamity than any other to our national prosperity, if not to our political being. It would be strange, indeed, if it should be made plain to our legislators, that the constitution stops their ears to the cries of humanity, ties their hands from the work of benevolence, and compels them to nurture the seeds and foster the growth of our own destruction. And it comes to this, if they have not power to establish a colony abroad to receive the free blacks; for we hold it to be a position, as firmly grounded as any law in nature or society, that our black population can never be drawn off, except through the medium of such an establishment. Let us denominate our colony a Territory, if we will, and then it will not differ from our other Territories, except in being separated from the confederated states by an ocean, instead of a river, or lake. A voyage from Washington to Mesurado can be performed as quick as to the Falls of St. Anthony, or the Saut of St. Mary, and much quicker than to the Mandan Villages.

The expediency of such a territory is to be settled, perhaps, on other principles, but it would hardly seem possible for a division to exist on this point. The advantages to this country of a colony in Africa, under the patronage of the government, are not to be calculated; and it needs not be reckoned among its least recommendations, that it would hold out the prospect of removing, in a good degree, the causes of the present differences between the governments of the United States and Great Britain, concerning mixed commission courts, and the mutual privilege of search on the coast of Africa. It may be added, moreover, that should the colony be taken into the hands of the government, it will enable Virginia to pursue her long meditated plan of providing for the colonization of her free blacks. It is but reasonable to suppose, also, that other states would follow the example, especially those, which have already, by a vote of their legislatures, approved the scheme of the Colonization Society. They might act with a confidence and secu-

city, which they cannot feel in a private body, however strong in its numbers, or fortunate in its operations.

But we do not mean to encourage the Society in any relaxation of duty, by thus proposing to take away its most oppressive burden. We would excuse it from the troublesome, if not impracticable task of controlling and governing the colony, but we would have all its energy, its zeal, and its resources employed in carrying forward the grand object. This can be done in a more efficient manner, by acting in concert with the government; every weight thrown into the scale will then be felt in its full force.

The Society may watch over the execution of the laws, keep an eye on abuses, and communicate to the government valuable intelligence, which it would not derive from any other source. In the year 1807, shortly after the abolition act was passed in England, the African Institution was formed, with the avowed object of affording all possible aids to the full operation of that act. To this end it has been of essential service, by taking cognizance of events, disseminating a knowledge of African affairs, and occasionally presenting memorials to Parliament, or addresses to the King, calling their attention to particular subjects, which the inquiries and experience of the Institution proved to them demanded additional legislation, or more vigorous executive measures. The Annual Reports of the Institution have sent out a fund of information, which has equally enlightened the public mind, and given a tone to public sentiment. The attention of the Colonization Society may be profitably turned into similar channels.

Another object, which may prove beneficial to the plan of colonization, is that of promoting travels and discoveries in the interior of Africa. Thirty-six years ago the African Association was organized in London for this purpose, and almost all the knowledge of interior Africa, which has since come to light, has been derived through the agency of this Association. Our enterprising countryman, John Ledyard, was the first person employed in its service. He embarked in the undertaking with an enthusiasm and perseverance peculiar to himself alone, and which had previously carried him through many perils and sufferings to every quarter of the globe; but he found an untimely grave in Egypt, when he was on the point of starting in a caravan for Nubia. The interesting and valuable discoveries of Hornemann and Park were made under the authority of the same Association. Let our Society send persons to explore the Mesurado river, or to engage in any other expeditions of discovery, from which the colony can be benefited, or the cause of African civilization advanced.

Schools ought also to be established, both in this country and in Africa, for the instruction of free persons of colour, recaptured negroes, and natives. It is desirable, that there should be at least one institution in the United States, designed exclusively for an African education, where youths may be taught with the express view of going to Africa, and where young natives, whom their parents may suffer to come away, shall be looked after and educated.



The auxiliary societies, scattered over the country, will be enabled to select the best subjects for such a school from among the families of those, who may be inclined to emigrate, and each auxiliary society may engage to support such persons as it shall send.

To the common elementary branches of knowledge, might be added the history and geography of Africa, the laws and customs of the people, accounts of the climate, soil, and trade, and whatever else should qualify the pupil for entering on his new sphere to the best advantage to himself and the community, in the capacity in which he shall be destined to act. Schools of the same kind may be set up in the colony, with a course of instruction adapted to circumstances. The humbler and more useful arts of life may be taught to the natives, who may be induced to attend the schools. The most promising of the colonists may learn some of the languages of the interior, which shall fit them for greater influence and usefulness. Religious instruction may be inculcated, churches built, and preachers supported. In short, the Colonization Society will never want employment for its means and strength, nor meet with any obstructions to the fullest exercise of its benevolence and activity, although it shall relinquish the arduous and embarrassing task of holding supreme direction over the colony.

While writing the above, we have been gratified to see accounts of new auxiliary societies springing up in different parts of the country, and especially one at Richmond, Virginia, with the venerable Chief Justice Marshall at its head. The sanction of such a name may well confirm the confidence of the steady advocates for colonization, and communicate a quickening power to the tardy zeal of the wavering. When, in addition to this, we reflect on the unqualified approbation with which the present Chief Magistrate of the nation, has uniformly regarded the designs of the Colonization Society, the number of distinguished persons found among its active patrons, and the progress it has made under an accumulation of discouraging circumstances, we can hardly desire a stronger testimony to the importance of its objects, or a more auspicious presage of its ultimate success.

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*Extract from the First Report of the New York Colonization Society.*

#### PRESENT STATE OF THE COLONY.

Formal possession of Cape Montserado was taken on the 25th of April, 1822, when the American flag was hoisted. The name *Liberia* is given to the region purchased of the natives, and *Monrovia* to the town then commenced. The plan of the town is, to build on one principal street, on which each settler has a house and lot, and in addition, is furnished with a plantation out of town. These, if he improves them industriously two years, becomes his and his heirs for ever. At the head of this street, in a commanding posi-

tion, stands the fort, a strongly built stone and mortar fortification ; its foundations laid several feet below the surface. The colonists are now engaged in building, and clearing the land. The following extracts will show the present state and prospects of the colony. The first is from a letter to a reverend gentleman in Baltimore, dated June 20, 1823, written by Mr. Ashmun, the United States' agent to take charge of liberated Africans.

"I perceive that the Baltimore benevolence has imposed on the colonists another debt of gratitude. Heaven reward the 'unwearied well-doing' which has characterized so many, especially of the pious ladies of that city. Please to remember me most cordially to such as I have the happiness to know. By such exertions, aided by the prayers which I believe accompanied them, has the colony at length obtained a firm footing. An asylum is prepared for the degraded sons of Africa. An opening is made for the effectual introduction of the Gospel among the native tribes. A principal objection to the emancipation of slaves in America is obviated. The annihilation of the slave trade along an extensive line of coast, ever famous for this guilty traffic, is secured—and whatever benefits are destined to result from the colonization of Africa, may be referred to the liberality of Baltimore more than to any other town or district in the United States, 'Laus tibi Domino.' But it is a pleasure and a duty to recognise the instruments by which he worked. Much of the labour of the colonists has been expended on works of defence : they are now nearly completed, and agriculture will, in future, engross the industry of the people. The rainy season commenced about the 20th of May ; but the heaviest rains are yet behind. Why, my dear sir, are not missionaries sent ? I can only assure you, in one word, that a better opening exists not in the world, and where they be more needed."

*Extracts from Mr. Ashmun's letter, dated Monrovia, July 21, 1823.*

"You will expect but a brief communication from us by this conveyance, the Oswego not having sailed two weeks when the packet arrived. Since her departure we have only built a few houses—enclosed and planted a few lots—finished a commodious store-room to receive the goods sent out per the Fidelity, by the African company.

"Five additional emigrants, including one lad of 12, also arrived by the packet. The schooner is now nearly unloaded, without any serious accident, and will sail in a very short time. I am sorry to state, that Captain Thornton, and some of the crew, had been slightly touched with the fever. The establishment of the packet line will be the making of the colony. By the return of the packet, several of the settlers go home for their families and property. All pay their passage, and leave bonds for reimbursing the expenses already incurred by the society on their account. One of these, a Mr. Waring, from Petersburg, with 12,000 dollars, will call on you

in Washington. It is his intention to fit out a vessel with colonists from Petersburg.

“I have determined to let no opportunity pass without humbly but earnestly representing to the Board, and every influential correspondent I have in America, the spiritual and moral necessities of your colonists. A missionary, and two schoolmasters, with a female teacher, are needed beyond measure. They ought, certainly, all to be white. The survivors are, to an individual, nearly recovered. You will be sorry to hear of the death of Abel Herd, the Asiatic traveller. He scarcely commenced his career of observation, before he imbibed the seeds of a mortal fever, which carried him off in eight days. He had imprudently dieted himself to an invalid on the passage. His impatience to begin his observations could not be restrained. As soon as he could fit himself out, his zeal carried him, contrary to the injunctions of Dr. Ayres and my own remonstrances, into the interior. He spent five days in exploring the St. Paul’s—wet by night and day, and breathing nothing but an atmosphere tainted with the effluvia of *mangrove mud*. He became sick, and had not a particle of animal vigour to resist the attack. He returned to the colony, reported his observations, and in two days expired. Had he lived, and succeeded according to his plan, a most valuable addition of African geography would have been given to the world.

“The rains set in about the 13th of May. They have not yet proved very severe; but we are seldom a night or day without a considerable fall of water.

“Barracks, or a range of houses built and covered partly in the native style, are nearly completed for our liberated captives. The poor fellows have hardly had justice done them hitherto. It is proposed to place over them the Rev. Lot Cary, to keep them much to themselves, and let them cultivate land enough to employ a good share of their leisure. In a short time they will, I believe, not only support themselves, but always have on hand a provision for the subsistence of future shipments of the same class.

“Our last accounts from America filled us with hope in relation to the future prospects of the society at home. There were evident symptoms in the disposition of the American public to rub open their eyes on the subject. They will, I believe, sir, come on as fast as perhaps the good of the colony shall require. It is not desirable, at present, that more than three or four shipments of sixty persons be made in the year. Let one hundred families be well settled, with a good house and perfectly improved lot to each, in town, and a plantation without, well cultivated. Let a hospital, warehouse, and temporary receptacle for new comers, be prepared—and the wheels of the machine, its schools, courts, &c. get a good momentum on them, in a proper direction, and, sir, you may throw in new settlers as fast as your funds will possibly admit. If we live to witness the progress of things here two years hence, I believe all this and more will be realized. The last Saturday in every month is court-day. One has occurred, and we have had one trial

by jury. It was conducted with great propriety, and the verdict strictly according to evidence. It was a criminal prosecution. For the particulars see the journal."

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*From the National Intelligencer.*

OF THE AFRICAN COLONY.—The subjoined extract is part of a letter from Rev. Colston M. Waring, a coloured preacher of great respectability, from Petersburg, in Virginia, who recently took passage to Cape Montserado in the Oswego, and returned in the Fidelity. This man, we are informed, was recommended to the Colonization Society as a person of tried worth and piety, by the Rev. Dr. Rice, of Richmond, and is spoken of in the highest terms by Dr. Ayres, in his recent communications. We may, therefore, depend upon his testimony. He is a man of considerable property; has a family; has been to Africa in a sickly season; and is now ready to venture all, and to persuade others to do the same, on the success of the enterprise in which the Colonization Society are engaged.

"When I left the United States, I promised to write you from Africa; but, by the sudden sailing of the Oswego, and my being sick at the time of the sailing, I was unwillingly deprived of that pleasure. As I have now arrived in my native land, I consider it my indispensable duty to give you my views of the land of my ancestors.

"Instead of finding Africa a sandy and barren waste, I found the whole country clothed with verdure, and stocked with forest trees of large growth. I saw cattle, sheep, goats, hogs, poultry, and fruit, in abundance. In fine, I can truly say, I think Africa as healthy, as productive, and as beautiful a country, as any in the world. I found all the people in good health, and apparently happy. Mr. Williams returned with me, and I cannot express the effect our arrival has produced on the minds of the people. All seem in favour of the scheme. The coloured people are fired with zeal in the cause. Last Monday evening upwards of one hundred gave in their names for the next expedition. It is all important to know when a vessel will sail, and whether that vessel will touch at this place for emigrants. I am anxious to know, myself, as I shall immediately close my affairs, and take my family with me. I shall go to Richmond, in a few days, to satisfy the minds of the people, and ascertain the number disposed to emigrate."

Such are the present prospects of the colony. It is *established*, flourishing, and in peace with the surrounding tribes. Many of these tribes already rejoice at its settlement, and have requested that their sons may be received into the colony, to learn mechanical arts. The colony has received several, the sons of head-men, but has been obliged to refuse others, for want of accommodations.







